FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol VI No 027 10 February 1987

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EEC, CONTADORA, C.A. FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET

EEC's Tindemans Opens Meeting

PA100217 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2341 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Feb (DPA) -- On opening the initial session of the third meeting of EEC, Central America, and Contadora Group foreign ministers in Guatemala City EEC President Leo Tindemans said: "We hope that the creation of a Central American parliament, the members of which would be elected by direct universal suffrage, will strengthen democracy, bring the peoples of the region and their representatives from all political trends closer together, and contribute to the regional integration process."

Tindemans, who is also Belgian foreign relations minister, said that "the 12 (EEC members) are willing to foster cooperation between the European Parliament and the Central American parliament when the time comes." The creation of the Central American parliament was proposed by Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo during the Central American presidential summit meeting held in Esquipulas, Guatemala, in May 1986.

Tindemans pointed out that he hopes the Guatemala conference will contribute positively to the Central American peace process initiated by the Contadora Group countries 4 years ago and backed by the EEC since 1983. He added that since the Central American presidents voiced their support for the group's pacification efforts, in Esquipulas "hope blossomed among all the men of good will who desire a peaceful and negotiated solution that can end violence in this part of the world."

Tindemans emphasized: "The 12 have seen this as a positive sign because the Central American countries must understand one another to attain peace." He added: "This entails the willingness to make the necessary mutual concessions to restore a climate of confidence." He said later that this climate "could only be created through a sincere commitment of each of the Central American countries to follow the path of social justice, safeguard human rights, and respect public liberties. People from all levels and political trends should be able to exercise their right to participate in the operation of a genuinely democratic and pluralist system."

According to Tindemans, the Central American countries "know that they can rely on the 12 in their search for peace. They can rely on us if we are sought out and according to our means so that we can contribute to the enactment and follow-up mechanism of the future peace act." He said further that Europe is aware that the stability in Central America is largely dependent on the economic and social development of the peoples of the region." [quotation marks as received] and that the agreement signed in Luxembourg in November 1985 has already institutionalized cooperation between Europe and Central America.

Finally, Tindemans said that the EEC sees in this accord an instrument that can help and reactivate the economic integration process in Central America.

Guatemala's Cerezo Speaks

PA092025 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1643 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Speech by Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, opening a meeting of the EEC, Contadora Group, and Central American foreign ministers at the National Theater in Guatemala City -- live]

[Text] Distinguished EEC ministers, friends and brothers of Central America and the Contadora Group: Welcome to Guatemala.

It is fitting to say -- to all the people, groups, friends, and representatives of countries who are now visiting Guatemala -- that we are extremely pleased to have you here.

Guatemala is pleased to have you here so that you will share with us the spirit that currently permeates our society. It is a spirit of peace and goodwill that strives to build society according to our needs. It is a spirit of certainty and confidence that we are following the path that we chose. As has been acknowledged, we have never tired in our struggle for the freedom and democracy to which we aspire. We are overcoming various obstacles history has placed in our path, which unfortunately led to many of our brothers sacrificing their lives for the ideals for which they were struggling.

However, we assure you that the determination that exists in Guatemala now -- not only in its president, but in the government, the various institutions, and particularly the Guatemalan people -- fully justifies the sacrifice of those who gave their lives for democracy and now live on in our memories and thoughts. Those years of struggle, obstacles, and problems taught us that it is worth struggling to attain the kind of society we seek. They also taught us that it is not enough to have democracy and peace at home, but that it is fundamental and necessary to work so that other countries also have peace and democracy.

In Guatemala we are struggling, inspired by our history and culture, to attain a national identity and the kind of society we want to build for the upcoming generations. However, we want to do this humbly and selflessly, with the desire to place this effort at the service of a united, peaceful international society that will respect the rights and sovereignty of peoples. We will not rest after we finish building our democracy. We will continue struggling so that democracy and peace will exist in other countries of the world.

I am happy that you are here because you will realize that Guatemala is not a conflict-free society that has resolved all its problems. You will realize, however, that it has the desire to resolve them, and that it will resolve them through its own efforts. We hope the other democratic countries of the world will support us so that the goal will be easier to attain and provide better results to benefit the people, who have made sacrifices and suffered without losing faith.

Concerning Central America, I wish to say that the Guatemalan Government and people are guided by the spirit of Central American unity. We believe that we are not dealing with foreign countries, but with our own brothers. Our position on Contradora, the Central American problems, Latin America, and the world is inspired in the deepest roots of Latin American unity: the pro-unification ideals of Simon Bolivar and the peace ideals of the great Mexican thinker Benito Juarez.

That is why the fact that Guatemala began its democratic process by sponsoring a meeting in Esquipulas with all the Central American countries and their presidents did not happen by chance. We believe in Latin American unity inspired by Bolivar.

We aspire above all to the unity of Central America. However, we also proposed the idea of the Central American parliament as a forum to discuss our problems and resolve them peacefully, because we believe, as did Benito Juarez, that respect for other's rights is peace. We should build Central American peace on that ideal.

That is the main reason we are happy to have the EEC here. We believe that our European brothers, from whom we learned the humanistic principles that inspired our philosophical and historical thought and our desire and determination to be the forgers of our own future, can help us not only economically and technically -- in material things -- but also with their experience. Europe exemplifies a group of countries and societies, which after having confronted one another, being divided, and seeking through violent means solutions to their various problems, realized that this was futile and that the only way to resolve them was by unifying efforts and respecting one another.

That is why we continue to regard the future of Central America with optimism. We are certain that in the 1950's many people said that to unify the European countries around an economic community was an impossible dream; that to end the confrontations between states was an insurmountable obstacle. However, at this stage of history, we see that the love of life, society, mankind, and respect for others overcame hatred and all thoughts that polarized and confronted men.

We sincerely believe in peoples' rights to plan their own future. We will only insist on creating the necessary conditions so that the people will make decisions about their future and that decisions will not be imposed on them from abroad or by small groups which believe themselves to be interpreters of people's decisions.

Our experiences in Guatemala have proven that pluralism, democracy, and respect for others are the only paths to peace. That is what we will attempt to bring about in Central America, Latin America, and the world through peaceful mechanisms and methods, never through the mechanism of violence.

We sincerely believe in peace, and we are willing to fight for it. That is why we are welcoming you now, our dear friends from the EEC. I ask you to inspire us, to give us your experiences, to give us technical assistance, to think about our needs because even though we believe in freedom, we know that freedom cannot be based on injustice. Help us face our economic and social problems. Help us find ways so we do not use our resources to purchase weapons to kill people in Central America, but so we may use our resources to meet the basic needs of our people who have been forgotten by history and by former leaders for many years.

We welcome you to a society that determines its own destiny. It is a society that is doing so humbly and with the desire that other societies may master their own destiny. Welcome to Guatemala.

I am absolutely convinced that together we will find the road to peace and solidarity and to the economic development of Central America. Guatemala is a country in which discussions over the respect for rights have been overcome. Our only concern is to find ways for our society to respect its members.

Welcome to a country that is willing to sacrifice whatever is necessary to contribute to the unity of the Central American countries, to the unity of its people, to peace, and to rebuild the trust that Latin Americans have in each other.

We welcome our Contadora friends. In the name of the Guatemalan people, I sincerely thank you for your efforts to bring peace to Central America. You have been inspired by the spirit to make Latin Americans the creators of their own destiny. You have been respectful of other countries. You have rejected the possibility of being involved in conflicts leading to polarization. I ask you to help Central America to build peace and to avoid war. Thank you very much for being with us.

Salvadoran Minister Absent

PA092339 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2135 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Feb (DPA) -- For reasons that are as yet unknown, Salvadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta was absent this morning from the opening session of the third conference of the Central American foreign ministers with the foreign ministers of the EEC and of the Contadora Group.

The seat assigned to the Salvadoran minister remained vacant throughout the opening ceremony.

It was learned from sources close to the conference that the Central America countries were unable to agree on a group spokesman that should have delivered a speech on behalf of the subregion during the same meeting. This forced the organizations to change the previously distributed agenda, omitting the Central American minister's speech.

A Central American minister has spoken on behalf of the five countries during the two previous conferences, one held in San Jose, Costa Rica in September, 1984, and the second one held in Luxembourg in November 1985.

NICARAGUA'S D'ESCOTO VIEWS AREA MEETINGS

PA091312 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Guatemala -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto has said that in order not to have to depend on the United States, it is necessary that Europe assist Central America and that the latter give unlimited support to the Contadora Group.

Actually, we are a small country and hope for political independence, but can only achieve it by not depending on the United States. We can strengthen our policy toward democracy if we diversify our markets, said the foreign minister.

D'Escoto is in this capital to attend the meeting of the EEC, Central America, and the Contadora Group, which will be opened by Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo.

D'Escoto said that Nicaragua will continue supporting the efforts of the Contadora Group, which favors dialogue.

He criticized the meeting of presidents of Central American countries, excluding Nicaragua, called by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez for 15 February in San Jose, Costa Rica. We feel that it is irrelevant because the only ones who can make a decision are the Nicaraguan people. That meeting seeks to tell us how to manage ourselves, and this is meddling. We think they should meet to discuss other matters, such as the economy, but not to discuss the internal affairs of Nicaragua.

The official noted that the presidents who will gather next week should indeed meet to guarantee our common borders and to adopt measures to prevent other states from intervening in the affairs of other nations. However, referring to the foreign policy of the Guatemalan Government, practically endorsing its attendance at the meeting, the foreign minister said that Cerezo is the president of a free and sovereign country and depends on the decision to attend, but this does not compromise its neutrality. [sentence as heard]

NICARAGUA'S TINOCO COMMENTS ON C.A. PEACE PROCESS

PA090418 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0250 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The draft political declaration between the EEC and the Central American countries will support the Contadora process and efforts, Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco reported today.

The draft declaration is being prepared at the technical level and will be submitted later to the "summit" of foreign ministers from the EEC, Central America, and the countries of the Contadora Group (Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama) to be held tomorrow in this city.

Victor Hugo Tinoco said that three-fourths of the draft declaration has already been agreed upon, but that there are still some discrepancies.

He said that "the Honduran delegation is trying to emphasize that the solution to the problem in the area should emanate from Central America," while the rest of the countries -- including the EEC countries -- want to say that the solution should come from Latin America (Contadora and its Support Group), based on the political will of the Central Americans.

Central American sources interpreted the Honduran stand as an attempt to reduce the importance of the Contadora process and endorse the initiative of Costa Rica, Honduras, and El Salvador to isolate Nicaragua in the search for a solution.

The Nicaraguan deputy minister feels that the forthcoming meeting of Central American presidents, slated for 15 February in San Jose -- from which Nicaragua has been excluded -- is "an attempt by the [United] States to avail itself of the impasse in the Contadora process to try to isolate Nicaragua."

The EEC has announced its firm support of the Contadora Group. The EEC wants the statement to mention the defense of human rights and democracy, sources of the Belgian delegation said. Belgium presides over the EEC.

According to Tinoco, Contadora's posture is more firm now than 3 years ago and the organization is interested in peace in Central America. He also said that the political statement should include an acknowledgement of the organization's peace efforts in the area.

Tinoco said: "Spain is a natural intermediary between Central America and the EEC." He added that the position of the Spanish delegation "could determine" the EEC's decisions.

Tinoco said that, despite the difficulties encountered by dialogue in Central America and the Contadora process, the EEC's posture of support for Contadora "is good and useful."

Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda stressed that the solution of the Central American problems involves all of the areas countries without exception.

The Mexican foreign secretary made these remarks during a press conference wehn he was asked about the "summit meeting" of Central American heads of state which excludes Nicaragua.

Shortly after arriving in this capital to participate in the meeting, Sepulveda asserted: "An overall multilateral solution demands the participation of all those involved."

The Mexican official underlined the interest shown by the EEC to support Contadora during its 4 years of peace efforts, voicing his hope that this political effort can continue.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON FALKLANDS ISLANDS DISPUTE

Senator Gass Discusses Talks

PY090234 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0130 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Feb (TELAM) -- Senator Adolfo Gass, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has said that he thinks the U.S. Government is seeking some points of contact that will lead to the initiation of Argentine-British negotiations over the Malvinas Islands. But he said that the United States is suffering from an (Alexander) Haig complex. Haig was the U.S. secretary of state who tried to mediate in the 1982 Argentine-UK war.

In a statement to the Diario del Lunes program broadcast by Radio Continental, Gass (UCR [Radical Civic Union] Senator for Buenos Aires) reasserted that in keeping with UN resolutions, these negotiations cannot exclude the sovereignty issue, and in keeping with this objective, Argentine and British legislators will continue to hold contacts.

Gass, who expressed doubt about any intermediaries or mediators, said that British legislators are constantly asking us to travel to London so that the public may be directly informed about the situation and not have to depend on biased sources for their information.

He added that the biased sources are businessmen who have visited London and discussed the issue as if they were capable of resolving it.

However, Gass did not reject the possibility of negotiations by unofficial parties, among them the president of the U.S.-based World Jewish Congress who a few months ago asked us how could he help us.

Gass said that he does not think there will be any incidents in the exclusion zone, which was unilaterally imposed by the Thatcher administration, but he did not reject the possibility that Argentina might sign new international agreements on fishing in the South Atlantic.

Storani: 'Informal Contacts' Made

PY100211 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 8 Feb 87 p 2

[Excerpt] Federico Storani, chairman of the Chamber of Deputies Foreign Relations committee, yesterday confirmed that there were "some informal contacts" with UK officials through U.S. officials about the present situation in the Malvinas Islands area. But he said that these contacts "are not negotiations, and our sovereignty claim over the archipelago was never dropped."

Storani made this comment to Radio Universidad de La Plata regarding reports from London that the British Foreign Office had received, through the United States "one or two ideas" from Argentina regarding fishing control and the avoidance of tension in the South Atlantic.

Although Storani denied reports of formal UK-Argentine Government contacts, he confirmed that U.S. Government representatives had intervened to try to safeguard the region from eventual incidents.

Regarding the recent visit to Argentina by Philip Habib, President Ronald Reagan's roving ambassador, and by General John Galvin, commander of the U.S. Armed Forces Southern Command, Storani said: "It is true that both of them suggested avoiding any type of tension in the Malvinas area."

But Storani added: "It is also true that the United States has publicly refused to assume any type of mediator role, which is, by the way, something our country does not accept." [passage omitted]

Politicians Survey Issue

PY092048 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 9 Feb 87 p 7

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo refused to comment on statements by SIDE [Secretariat for State Intelligence] chief Facundo Suarez that there was a British counterespionage campaign against him while informal talks between London and Buenos Aires via United States mediation continued behind the scenes.

Meanwhile Defense Minister Horacio Jaunarena reported that Coast Guard patrols were proceeding "normally" in the South Atlantic yesterday, the eighth day of the British 150-mile fisheries conservation zone around the Malvinas Islands.

The cutters reportedly checked out some 50 trawlers over the weekend but all were able to show permits issued by the Argentine authorities.

In a related development, Buenos Aires gubernatorial candidate Antonio Cafiero criticized Senate Defence Committee Chairman Antonio Berhongaray (Radical-La Pampa) for saying that the fishing treaties with the Soviet Union and Bulgaria were in need of review.

Cafiero said Argentina had made legitimate use of its sovereign rights in signing the treaties and attributed criticism of the accords to "international pressure." In this context he warned against United States mediation.

The Renewal Peronist leader urged the government to maintain its position of negotiating with the British provided that the issue of sovereignty was on the agenda of any talks.

Berhongaray yesterday revealed that the Armed Forces were allowing for the possibility of conflict with Chile in the light of the fisheries crisis. The Augusto Pinochet regime has expressed concern about the possibility of Soviet penetration in the region and even gunrunning to Chilean leftist rebels as a result of the fishing treaties with Iron Curtain countries.

CHURCH TO SEEK TO REINSTATE CGT-GOVERNMENT TALKS

PY071640 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2110 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Feb (NA) -- Msgr Italo Di Stefano, the president of the episcopate social pastoral team, today confirmed tht the church will agree to use its "good offices" in negotiations seeking to reestablish the talks between the government and the CGT [General Confederation of Labor].

Shortly before receiving a CGT delegation headed by Saul Ubaldini at the episcopate offices, Di Stefano said, however, that we, the prelates, "will not act as mediators or as arbiters."

CGT ATTEMPTING TO INCREASE INTERNATIONAL TIES

PY080124 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 7 Feb 87 p 11

[Text] Foreign Minister Dante Caputo briefed General Confederation of Labour (CGT) Secretary-General Saul Ubaldini on the situation in the Malvinas Islands, reliable sources said.

The conversation took place moments before the labour chief saw Hungarian Ambassador Marton Klein, in the second meeting this week with a top foreign diplomat -- U.S. Ambassador Theodore Gildred visited CGT headquarters on Tuesday.

Ubaldini once again voiced concern over the tense climate around the Malvinas in talks with Klein. He had previously requested Gildred to do everything in his means to guarantee the safety of workers carrying out tasks closed to the South Atlantic waters disputed between Argentina and Britain.

Caputo and Ubaldini met last September when the Foreign Ministry reported to different groups on the Malvinas conflict following the British declaration of a 150-mile military exclusion zone around the islands.

Miguel Candore, in charge of the CGT International Relations Department, said yesterday that talks with the U.S. and Hungarian ambassadors formed part of a drive to establish direct contacts with representatives from across the world.

In yesterday's meeting Klein and CGT board members reportedly agreed to boost ties between Hungarian and Argentine labour groupings. Klein also noted that his country, of 11,000,000 inhabitants, was burdened by a 10 billion (thousand million) [currency not specified] foreign debt.

In other news, church mediation in the government-CGT bargaining deadlock is expected to start within a week as Social Pastoral work team president Monsignor Italo Di Stefano will first discuss proposed measures with top ecclesiastical authorities.

Ubaldini reportedly assured church members meantime that he would refrain from drawing the pope into labour disputes and simply "read a prayer" during the meeting scheduled for April 11 in La Matanza between the pontiff and workers.

BRIEFS

NEW ARMY CORPS COMMANDER -- Rosario, 22 Jan (NA) -- According to military sources, Colonel Mohamed Ali Seineldin has been appointed chief of operations of the 2d Army Corps in Rosario. Seineldin will be installed at the end of February, the sources reported. [Summary] [Buenos Aires NOTICIA ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1349 GMT 22 Jan 87 PY]

AIDS CASES DIAGNOSED -- Buenos Aires, 9 Feb (NA) -- Health Secretary Rodolfo Montero today admitted that "currently, there are 60 AIDS cases in the country," and that his sector "has already adopted a series of preventive measures to control the situation." [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1433 GMT 9 Jan 87 PY]

INTERIOR MINISTER ON DRUG AGREEMENT WITH U.S.

PY061441 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0039 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] La Paz, 5 Feb (EFE) -- Bolivian Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy today said that the Bolivian and U.S. Governments will sign a new antinarcotics agreement in March, defining points concerning the repression of drug traffickers and the elimination of coca-leaf plantations.

Barthelemy pointed out that the antinarcotics actions conducted thus far are based on agreements signed since 1983, agreements that must be updated and further elaborated. He also explained that the U.S. Administration will only participate in the repression of the cocaine producers and traffickers. The minister announced that new aircraft will be sent that will be used in this stage.

Nevertheless, Fernando Barthelemy pointed out that it is impossible to control drug trafficking just by repressive actions. He stated that the excessive production of coca leaves must also be solved. Barthelemy added that the elimination and replacement of the coca plantations will require a $100-million investment. This amount is included in the $300 million involved in the government cost estimates for the implementation of the "3-year program to struggle against drug trafficking."

In conclusion, the Bolivian minister stated that the repression of trafficking will be conducted with or without U.S. financial assistance. Last Tuesday, however, he stated that if that financial support was not disbursed, the antinarcotics struggle was in jeopardy.

OIL STRIKE; FACILITIES UNDER MILITARY CONTROL

PY071557 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 7 Feb 87

[Excerpts] The Bolivian Government has ordered drastic measures to end the pressures being exerted by workers of the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB]. After a meeting yesterday with President Victor Paz Estenssoro, the information and energy ministers announced that YPFB will be reorganized. [passage omitted]

In the face of the serious YPFB internal situation, the government has ordered the following measures, which were announced by Information Minister Herman Antelo:

[Begin Antelo recording] In order to guarantee the normal supply of fuels across the nation, the government has ordered that military and security forces be charged with guarding every refinery, processing, and distribution plant, and oil pipeline. It has also called a cabinet meeting for 9 February at 0900 to immediately proceed to a complete reorganization of the YPFB. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Panamericana has learned from reliable sources that the following leaders of the Trade Union Federation of Bolivian Oil Workers [FSTPB] were arrested last night: German Barraza, Gerardo Galvez, and Hugo Pereda. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, the FSTPB has reaffirmed its decision to call an indefinite general strike. Following the detention of their national leaders, the FSTPB leaders of La Paz and other departments met at the Sucre Hotel to call the strike.

Enrique Martinez, secretary general of the Camiri branch, has announced that in the face of the government's openly repressive action, they have decided to call an indefinite general strike beginning today, 7 February.

Strikers Warned, Leaders Arrested

PY100150 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The government will punish those who have irresponsibly promoted the measures adopted by oil workers. In keeping with a unanimous Cabinet decision, the government will start court proceedings against those responsible for the serious damage caused by the YPFB strike.

In a statement to the press after a long Cabinet meeting, Information Minister Herman Antelo said that YPFB labor representatives and workers decided to ignore an agreement and enforce radical measures. He added that in view of this, the government is compelled to punish those responsible for this attitude.

[Begin Antelo recording] Court proceedings have been initiated against those responsible for these incidents. (?The government) has the obligation to safeguard oil supplies so that the people do not suffer the consequences of this strike, which we believe is disloyal and irresponsible. It will guarantee supplies by resorting to strong measures if necessary.

Moreover, it must safeguard government installations and property. Therefore, the government has taken over all YPFB installations, and they are now under its control.

In view of all this, if the strike continues, and we hope it will not, the government will be compelled to take all the necessary provisions to safeguard national interests of the hydrocarbons sector, a vital sector that is one of the main resources of the government's economic policy and the basis of the stability the country currently enjoys. [end recording]

Moreover, Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy has announced that 17 YPFB leaders were arrested today throughout the country. He said that the degree of responsibility that these persons have for the YPFB strike will be established.

BRIEFS

VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS -- Bolivian President Dr Victor Paz Estenssoro yesterday received the credentials of Venezuelan Ambassador to Bolivia Francisco Salazar Martinez. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 30 Jan 87 p 7 PY]

CENTRAL BANK DIRECTOR INSTALLED -- Finance Minister Juan Cariaga yesterday installed newly appointed Central Bank director Erlan Arispe. Arispe replaces Hugo Lang. [Summary] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 Jan 87 p 6 PY]

POLICE COMMANDER INSTALLED -- Bolivian President Dr Victor Paz Estenssoro last night administered the oath of office to the new commander general of the Bolivian Police, General Raul Escobar. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 30 Jan 87 p 1 PY]

FUNARO CRITICIZES NATION'S LARGEST CREDITOR

PY060233 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2155 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Finance Minister Dilson Funaro has criticized Brazil's largest creditor. The U.S. press yesterday published an interview with the president of Citibank, the U.S. bank that has lent the most money to Brazil.

The Citibank president said that his bank would not give in to Brazilian pressure to lower the country's interest payments. In Brasilia, Minister Dilson Funaro responded to that statement.

[Begin Funaro recording] I have never seen anybody come to negotiate with such a hard set position. This is strange because it shows a lack of respect for the other side. But he helped us a lot when he disclosed that Citibank has a great source of profit in Latin America, and that he is not willing to lose that profit. Now looking at it from the other side of the table, our side here in Brazil, we are not going to make sacrifices to give business to Citibank. [end recording]

Minister Dilson Funaro also announced the new measure of the Central Bank reducing bank profits. The government today decided that the legal deposits required from the banks will now be made in cash. In the past, banks paid part of the legal deposits in government bonds which helped increase their profits.

GOVERNMENT: NO ECONOMIC PACKAGES FORTHCOMING

PY092345 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Civilian Household Chief Marco Maciel today said that the government is not thinking of issuing any new economic packages. In a television interview, Maciel said economic measures may be issued in isolated cases but they will not be issued in the form of an economic package.

Maciel admitted that interest rates are quite high, and that the government is partly responsible for this. He promised the following:

[Begin Maciel recording] The government is following the situation closely. I believe that within a couple of days, [words indistinct] in a week or 10 days, we will come up with a solution to this problem. [end recording]

Regarding politics, Maciel said he would like to dedicate more time to the PFL [Liberal Front Party], of which he is a member. Maciel said it is inevitable that the government bloc leader in the Constituent Assembly will be elected from the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] bloc, which has a majority in Congress. He stated, however, that the most important thing is to safeguard the Democratic Alliance.

[Begin Maciel recording] The president considers himself to be a member of the Democratic Alliance bloc. Every one talks about blocs, but I think the president supports the Democratic Alliance and he will not change. He is convinced that the Democratic Alliance is making viable what Tancredo Neves called the New Republic. [end recording]

PLANNING MINISTER HOSPITALIZED WITH MENINGITIS 7 FEB

PY070228 Rio de Janeiro Rede Manchete Television in Portuguese 0130 GMT 7 Feb 87

[Text] Planning Minister Joao Sayad was hospitalized with a hightemperature at the Sao Paulo Heart Institute tonight. The doctors diagnosed meningitis, but an official bulletin on the minister's health will be released tomorrow.

Acting Minister Appointed

PY091306 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Jose Lobo Fernandes Braga Jr, head of staff of the Planning Ministry, is acting minister during the temporary absence of Planning Minister Joao Sayad.

Henri Phillipe Reishtug, Secretariat of Planning secretary general, should have been the acting minister but he cannot occupy the position because he was born in France. Brazilian law stipulates that foreigners cannot occupy ministers' positions even if they are naturalized Brazilians.

Appointment Denied

PY091721 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1500 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Planning Ministry activities have not changed as a result of Minister Joao Saya's hospitalization at the Sao Paulo Heart Institute. Sayad is taking care of his ministerial affairs from the hospital, where he is assisted by his secretary general Henri Phillipe Reishtug, who is also in Sao Paulo.

According to the Planning Ministry press advisors, it will not be necessary to appoint an acting minister, because Sayad is recoving very fast, and will be discharged in 10 days. [passage omitted]

BRASILSAT CHANNELS TO BE RENTED TO 5 COUNTRIES

PY091714 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Feb 87 p 21

[Text] Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Venezuela, and Colombia will soon begin nationwide television networks using Brasilsat II channels. This was revealed yesterday by EMBRATEL [Brazilian Telecommunications Enterprise] President Pedro Jorge Castelo Branco, who explained that the company will rent some of its currently unused transponders to those countries for their domestic networks. Each transponder is capable of handling 1,000 voice channels, or 500 simultaneous conversations, and will be rented for $2 million.

EMBRATEL is concerned over the demand for orbital space and Castelo Branco said that it has already requested the Frequency Registration Board (the entity which coordinates the frequencies of space transmissions) to reserve orbital space for the third Brazilian communications satellite to be launched in the future.

Castelo Branco met with the press yesterday to report on EMBRATEL's 1986 activities. He said that the company's services grew 24 percent, surpassing the 21.4 percent growth in 1985.

Regarding telephone traffic, the domestic sector grew 33 percent, the international 27 percent, and data processing grew 40 percent. However, operational income fell 18 percent compared to 1985.

The small effect of the tariff readjustment made last November did not give EMBRATEL a comfortable surplus. After the payment of costs, there was only a 20-percent profit of every cruzado earned from domestic and international telephone traffic.

Castelo Branco indicated that it is time to reorganize EMBRATEL. The company was created 21 years ago with the purpose of giving the country the ability to communicate. He added that telephone communication and data processing has changed. With the coming of the new century, EMBRATEL must be ready for the changes in technology and for a new era.

BRIEFS

GOLD DEPOSITS DISCOVERED -- Brasilia -- National Department of Mineral Production (DNPM) Director General Jose Belfort dos Santos Bastos yesterday announced the discovery of an important gold deposit in western Mato Grosso State with an average grade of 14.49 grams of gold per ton of ore, and 4.9 grams of silver per ton. Mining operations are scheduled to begin in the second half of 1987. Another deposit was discovered in the Crixas Municipality area in Goias State with probable reserves of 87.4 tons of gold. Mining should also start there in the second half of 1987. After prospecting for 4 years, the Manati Mining company discovered a copper, silver, and gold deposit in Caceres, Mato Grosso State. [Excerpt] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Feb 87 p 53 PY]

SHORT POWER OUTAGE BLACKS OUT COASTAL AREAS

PY080259 Paris AFP in Spanish 0243 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Text] Santiago, 7 Feb (AFP) -- A power outage tonight blacked out many neighborhoods in Santiago and other cities of northern and central Chile but the authorities reported that power went back to normal in a few minutes. Official sources have stated that the blackout was experienced in Copiapo, Coquimbo, Valparaiso and Santiago, an 800-km stretch of territory where one-third of Chile's population of 12 million lives. The sources indicated that the power outage was caused by a technical malfunction but police sources did not rule out the possibility of one or more dynamite attacks against the power network.

Downtown Santiago did not experience the blackout, the second in Chile in the last 48 hours. Responsibility for several similar blackouts was recently claimed by the clandestine FPMR (Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front) and the MIR (Movement of the Revolutionary Left), which advocate popular uprising against President Augusto Pinochet's military regime.

POLICE DETAIN SUMMER WORK STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

PY051336 Paris AFP in Spanish 0223 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Santiago, 4 Feb (AFP) -- The Students Federation reported today that some 230 Chilean students and several Swedisn, Argentine, and Uruguayan guests were being held by the police in the city of Lautaro, southern Chile, where the authorities have prohibited volunteer summer work which the youth planned to carry out in several Indian towns in the region of Temuco, some 700 km from Santiago.

Some 50 other students managed to pass the controls and have established themselves in the towns chosen for their work, to which the military government of President Augusto Pinochet attributes a leftist political agitation purpose.

The group detained in Lautaro was taken to a state-owned gymnasium to protect them from the inclement weather but they are not allowed to prepare their own food there, the leaders reported. According to official reports, the students will be sent back to Santiago, possibly tomorrow, 5 January, although the federation has reported in the capital that they will insist in carrying out the plan to work with the Mapuche peasants.

POLICE DISPERSE TEACHERS DURING PROTEST MARCH

PY061430 Paris AFP in Spanish 0022 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Santiago, 5 Feb (AFP) -- The Carabineros militarized police today dispersed dozens of teachers who were staging a protest demonstration in Santiago, although no one was detained, according to observers. The demonstrators demanded the end of the dismissals of teachers from schools and high schools throughout the country. According to union leaders, more than 7,000 teachers have been expelled from their posts over the past few months.

The protest march began in front of the University of Chile on Bernardo O'Higgins promenade, where Osvaldo Verdugo, president of the college professors association, denounced the persecution of teachers. Sofia Colodro, president of the Trade Union Association of Chilean Teachers (AGECH), made similar remarks.

After the rally, approximately 300 teachers marched along the avenue shouting slogans in favor of the movement. They were immediately intercepted by the police and some fights could be observed between demonstrators and the police.

In Chile there are 100,000 teachers for 3 million elementary and high school students. A recent measure adopted by the government of General Augusto Pinochet transferred the administration of the state schools and high schools to the municipalities, after which the mayors of Santiago and other cities began the dismissals.

LEADER DISSOLVES MOVEMENT OF EXTREME RIGHT

PY061435 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0538 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Santiago, 4 Feb (EFE) -- Gaston Acuna, President of the rightist National Action Movement (MAN), has announced the dissolution of this political movement and said that the members of the party are hereby "granted freedom of action."

This decision, released recently through a press article, has been considered "respectable" by Federico Willoughby, former president of MAN, who said today that he has been aware of this decision since December.

Willoughby stated that the dissolution of MAN does not weaken the movement's aspirations for Chile's well-being beyond any semantic or ideological disagreements existing among rightist, centrist, or leftist groups.

It is believed that some of MAN's leaders and militants may join the Unified Party of the Right promoted by Andres Allamand, president of the National Unity Movement (MUN).

The Independent Democratic Union (UDI) led by Jaime Guzman, and the National Labor Front (FNT), created and headed by the former Interior Minister of the current Chilean military government Sergio Onofre Jarpa, have expressed their support for this new development. [passage omitted]

BRIEFS

SOCIALIST PARTY CONFIRMS SECRETARIES -- The Socialist Party, Authentic faction, has confirmed Secretary General Juan Carlos Moraga, and Under Secretaries Hugo Colona and Jorge Thuma in their posts. [Summary] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 1 Feb 87 p C 2 PY]

MAPU UNDER SECRETARIES RESIGN -- The United Popular Action Movement (MAPU) Central Committee has accepted the resignations tendered by its Secretaries General Jaime Cataldo and Guillermo del Valle. [Summary] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 28 Jan 87 p C 3 PY]

PHYSICIAN REPORTS MEDICAL CONDITION OF COMMANDOS

PA052251 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Excerpts] A commission of the Constitution Guarantees Tribunal today met with several of the airmen who are being held at various Quito military garrisons. The commission, which includes tribunal spokesmen and physicians [words indistinct] Red Cross representatives, and delegates of the Ecumenical Human Rights Commission evaluated the commandos' health and reported that the 12 soldiers who were visited showed no signs of having been mistreated.

Two military garrisons have been visited so far. The round of visits will reportedly be completed within the next several days.

Dr Victor Pacheco, president of the Pichincha Medical Association, is in charge of making medical reports on the men.

[Begin recording] [Pacheco] They have bruises on various parts of their bodies, particularly on their arms, at the wrists. However, these bruises are healing.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Pacheco] We do not know. The bruises are approximately 10 to 11 days old.

[Reporter] Doctor, were you able to detect electric shock tortures?

[Pacheco] We have no evidence of this. In the 12 soldiers we have examined we have not been able to see any of this.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Pacheco] [Words indistinct] there is no physical evidence.

[Reporter] Doctor, I asked you this as you apparently contradicted yourself. You examined one of the airmen while I was present and you said he had a [word indistinct] on his feet...

[Pacheco, interrupting] There is no hard evidence that he had been mistreated that way.

[Reporter] I thought I heard him say he was tortured that way.

[Pacheco] Yes, but we cannot be sure; there is no way we can ascertain this was the case. They are [word indistinct] injuries.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Pacheco] There is no evidence that they were mistreated. [Words indistinct] there is no physical evidence of mistreatment. [end recording]

MEETING TO HONOR U.S. AMBASSADOR TEARGASSED

PY101110 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 10 Feb 87 p 8

[Text] U.S. Ambassador to Paraguay Clyde Taylor last night had to call in the Marines in order to leave a house in the Trinidad neighborhood, where an attempt was made to hold a dinner to honor him, after police hurled three teargas bombs into the yard of the house breaking up the gathering of some 100 people.

The organization "Women for Democracy," which is comprised of wives of local politicians, announced yesterday that they were going to host a dinner for the U.S. ambassador to express "solidarity and make amends for the offenses received."

Our journalists arrived on the scene shortly after the police action which, according to eyewitnesses, aroused panic among those present because the teargas bombs confused them. "This is incredible," said one of the ladies who left the scene lamenting the incident.

The police unit was led by Colonel Victor Machuca Godoy, Police Officer Alberto Cantero from the Political Section of the Investigative Police, and Police Officer Publio Fretes from the Third Precinct, according to information gathered later. It was also discovered that the owner of the house was Josefina Sosa, who apparently left the residence after the incident to spend the night at the home of one of the diplomats present at the time of the incident.

According to one source, Spanish, Argentine, French, and FRG diplomats also were present in addition to Taylor.

Adalita del Puerto, a militant of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA], said with tears in her eyes that "this is a shame, this is savagery of the kind that only this regime can perpetrate." She added that the ladies' only objective had been to honor the ambassador. "This is not a political rally," Del Puerto said, adding that Taylor is a true democrat and that a great many people admire him.

Taylor boarded his car inside the residence yard and drove into the street accompanied by the Marines. There he left the vehicle to greet several politicians who were awaiting the outcome of the incident. The song "Beloved Fatherland" was sung and the people left.

CONTINUING TV REPORTAGE ON STROESSNER'S ACTIVITIES

5 Feb Meetings Noted

PY061723 Asuncion Red Privada de Television in Spanish 1500 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Announcer-read report; picture shows announcer only with no footage of President Stroessner]

[Text] This morning President Stroessner reported to his office at the Lopez Palace and met with many people, among whom were Public Works Minister Juan Antonio Caceres, Central Bank President Cesar Romeo Acosta, Paraguayan Ambassador to Peru Miguel T. Romero, National Housing Bank President Eligio Tomas Franco, Deputy Silvio Meza Britez, and Chief Justice Luis Maria Argana.

The president also met with Foreign Minister Carlos Augusto Saldivar, Industry and Commerce Minister Delfin Ugarte Centurion, Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro, Asuncion Police Chief Francisco Alcibiades Britez Bordes, and Mr Jesus Manuel Pallares.

No Footage, Pictures 9 Feb

PY100141 [Editorial Report] No Paraguayan television newscast carried footage of President Stroessner on 9 February. In its 1500 GMT and 2300 GMT newscast, Asuncion Red Privada de Television in Spanish, however, did carry clips of government officials who met with the president.

Similarly, no local morning or evening newspaper carried photographs of the president on 9 February.

9 Feb Consultations Reported

PY091816 Asuncion Red Privada de Television in Spanish 1500 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Announcer introduces clip showing Paraguayan Government officials departing the Presidential Palace; the announcer reads report on President Stroessner's activities off camera -- recorded]

[Text] Beginning his activities this week, President Alfredo Stroessner went to his office at Government House where he met with several people. Among them was Deputy Americo Velazquez, chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Chamber of Deputies; Fulgencio Tomas Santos, director general of customs; Jesus Manuel Pallares, member of the State Council; Manuel M. Esquivel, director general of the Post Office; and Senator Mario Lopez Escobar.

The president also met with Finance Minister Cesar Barrientos, Foreign Relations Minister Carlos Augusto Saldivar, Justice and Labor Minister Jose Eugenio Jaquet and Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro. The president also received Colonel Millar Arthur Peck, chief of the U.S. Office of Defense Cooperation in Paraguay. Colonel Peck will be departing Paraguay shortly because his tour of duty in our country is over.

HOY PUBLISHER REBUKES INTERIOR MINISTER

PY071650 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 6 Feb 87 p 1

[Framed front-page note signed by HDD, Humberto Dominguez Dibb, owner-publisher of HOY, entitled: "Montanaro"]

[Text] You are dividing the ruling party and the country with your reactions, which are not in keeping with those of a minister. I consider you a minister, but I do not respect you as a Colorado. Continue dividing the party, which is your job and your goal.

Stroessner is No I and you are a zero. It is good for you to know that civilians like you will see what they will get.

GOVERNMENT CHARGED WITH VIOLATIONS IN PRISON RIOTS

PY090240 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1802 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Text] London, 8 Feb (EFE) -- Civilian officials and military officers of the Peruvian Government headed by Alan Garcia covered up the tortures and murders committed by security forces during the organized uprisings that occurred last June in three Peruvian prisons. This was revealed in an Amnesty International (AI) report that will be released on Monday in London.

The uprisings were organized by members of the Maoist Shining Path being held in El Fronton, Lurigancho, and Santa Barbara Prisons near Lima.

The report prepared by AI, the humanitarian organization that defends political or religious prisoners throughout the world, states that the Peruvian security forces killed a large number of Shining Path guerrillas after they had surrendered. According to the report, security agents dynamited several cells in El Fronton even though the prisoners had already surrendered. Those responsible said that the prisoners died in the explosion.

The AI report contained heretofore unknown information about the uprisings in El Fronton, Lurigancho, and Santa Barbara. Fourteen uprising participants were murdered at Lurigancho, as were two at Santa Barbara.

In its report, AI directly accuses officials of the Garcia government, stressing that they "deliberately concealed cases of torture and murder, in violation of basic human rights. [quotation marks as received]

The data contained in the report, which includes photographs of the incidents, were provided by family members and lawyers of the victims, as well as by some of the survivors. The report says that "civilian officials as well as military officers deliberately concealed human rights violations that occurred at the time of the uprisings and that might still be occurring."

The AI report emphasizes that according to officials, only 35 of the 154 Shining Path members housed in the "Blue Cellblock" of El Fronton survived. The official communique said that the others died in the ruins. The report adds that between 30 and 60 survivors were moved to secret cells at a naval base, and that 35 others were executed in the demolished cells at El Fronton.

AI also says that President Alan Garcia ordered people to remain quiet about the incidents when it became known that at least 100 of the participants were shot by security force members after they had surrendered.

The report also says that the bodies of the guerrillas who had been shot at the three prisons were secretly buried at night in several different cemeteries, and their relatives were not notified. It charges that masked soldiers, Civil Guardsmen (members of the local police), and officers committed the murders, and that they were supervised by an Army general.

In conclusion, the report made note of the fact that it has condemned the campaign of violence that Shining Path members have been carrying out since 1981, which has included kidnapping, torture, mutilation, and murder.

SHINING PATH LAUNCHES 'LARGE-SCALE' OFFENSIVE

PY091820 Paris AFP in Spanish 1744 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Cusco, 9 Feb (AFP) -- Prefect Julio Jara Ladron de Guevara today reported that 10 terrorists and 3 civil guards were killed during an operation launched by Shining Path in Cusco, in the southeast of Peru.

The prefect of Cusco added that the subversives have launched a large-scale operation because reports speak of various guerrilla columns occupying several communities in four provinces, and declaring them liberated zones.

GENERAL INVOLVED IN KILLINGS MAY BE SUMMONED

PY061350 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0130 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Referring to General Clemente Noel's indictment in the Uchuraccay case [in which 8 journalists were killed in 1983], War Minister General Jorge Flores Torres today said that the Army will observe the ruling handed down by the judicial branch.

[Begin recording] [Flores] The judicial branch is independent [words indistinct]. We will see what the judge decides in this regard because Noel is being accused of maladministration of justice [mala administracion de justicia].

We will see to what point there has been maladministration of justice because he was far from the area where the actions occurred [words indistinct] judicial branch and one must accept what the judicial branch has now determined.

[Question] Where is Gen Noel now?

[Flores] He is in the United States. He has been with the Inter-American Defense Board since early 1987.

[Question] Does that mean he will return to our country?

[Flores] If the judicial branch so decides, he will be accused, and will have to return to the country. We will strictly comply with the decision of the judical branch. [end recording]

ANTIDRUG POLICE OPERATION RESULTS REPORTED

PY091548 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0410 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Text] Police Operation Condor V has struck a hard blow to drug trafficking in Huanuco. In the last few hours, police seized 4 tons of cocaine base and 75 tons of coca leaves. The police also arrested 60 people, several of them Colombians, who had brought sophisticated firearms into the country.

Some 20 armed helicopters and 100 policemen have been involved in the largest search operation. During the Condor V operation, the hideouts of drug traffickers, located in the jungle areas of Uchiza, Paraiso, and Manchete, have been virtually destroyed. The police operation followed an air raid on the region by Air Force pilots.

The drug traffickers' encampments were equipped with computerized laboratories and modern communication systems. The encampments were guarded by mercenaries.

CUBAN EMBASSY SAYS REFUGEES' GUARANTEES SUSPENDED

PY100241 Paris AFP in Spanish 0036 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] Lima, 9 Feb (AFP) -- The Cuban Embassy announced here today that the guarantees the Cuban Government offered to three Cubans sheltered in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana have been suspended.

A statement by the Cuban diplomatic mission regarding the case of these three refugees, who are holding a hunger strike to demand authorization to leave the island, states that the Cuban Government's decision is based on the position of blackmail and pressure adopted by the three individuals. Two of the refugees began their fast 33 days ago, and the other one started 2 weeks ago.

According to Cuban exiles in Lima, the three Cubans have been under the protection of the Peruvian Embassy in Cuba since April 1980, when nearly 10,000 people who wanted to leave the country entered the Peruvian diplomatic mission. The three intend to obtain safe conduct to leave Cuba under the diplomatic protection of Peru. Nevertheless, Peru has not granted them refugee status.

On the other hand, the Cuban Embassy pointed out that at no time has the Cuban Government offered amnesty to the three refugees or said they could depart from the country. The Cuban Embassy added that as a friendly gesture toward the Peruvian Government, the Cuban Government guaranteed that the three would not be subject to any restriction if they abandoned the Peruvian Embassy on their own.

However, while reporting on the hunger strike on 4 February, the Peruvian Foreign Ministry mentioned that the Cuban Government offered amnesty to the three refugees.

MARITIME TRANSPORT COORDINATED WITH CHILE

PY041507 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1916 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Text] Lima, 3 Feb (EFE) -- Peru and Chile today concluded a meeting in Lima to establish the basis for a process to coordinate their interests in the maritime transport sector.

The Peruvian Transport and Communications Ministry issued a communique stating that Peruvian and Chilean delegations had met in Lima "to discuss maritime transport matters." The communique adds that "these talks have laid the groundwork for a process seeking to harmonize the interests of the two countries within a mutually satisfactory framework."

The Peruvian delegation was headed by Deputy Transport and Communications Minister Ernesto Alencastre, while the Chilean delegation was headed by Transport Under Secretary Colonel Enrique Yavar. The two countries have imposed some restrictions in the past few months on the access of each other's ships to their ports.

SOVIET UNION'S KOMPLEKTOV CONCLUDES VISIT

PY080056 Paris AFP in Spanish 2329 GMT 7 Feb 87

[Text] Montevideo, 7 Feb (AFP) -- USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Komplektov today departed for Mexico after a 48-hour official visit to Uruguay. The Soviet official will make a technical stopover in Buenos Aires. Before leaving Montevideo, Komplektov met with Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias, who returned this afternoon from Africa.

Yesterday the Soviet official met with Uruguayan President Julio Sanguinetti to discuss details of the visit Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will pay to Uruguay at an as yet undetermined date this year. Meanwhile, Sanguinetti confirmed that he will travel to the Soviet Union this year in response to an invitation from the Soviet Government, according to reliable sources. The Soviet deputy foreign minister held talks with his Uruguayan counterpart, Alberto Rodreguez Nin, and with a group of Uruguayan economic experts. With the latter he discussed the possibility of increasing bilateral trade. Komplektov also met with the chairman of the international affairs committees of the two congressional chambers and held talks with Uruguayan political leaders. The Soviet official conveyed to the Uruguayan officials his government's concern over the militarization of space and praised the peace efforts of the Contadora Group in Central America.

[Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 0400 GMT on 8 February reported that "after spending 2 days in Uruguay, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Komplektov today made a technical stopover in Buenos Aires and departed from Ezeiza International Airport at approximately 2000 local time [2300 GMT], according to a spokesman of the Soviet Embassy in Buenos Aires. The Embassy spokesman did not indicate the destination of the flight Komplektov took."]

IGLESIAS RETURNS FROM MEXICO, AFRICA TOUR

PY090250 Paris AFP in Spanish 1538 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Text] Montevideo, 8 Feb (AFP) -- Regarding the Central American issue, Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias today said that there are conflicting views that cannot be reconciled on how to solve the problem. He also said that a war situation already exists; it has acquired the nature of an armed conflict. But he warned that the worst thing that can happen is for us to get used to living with the conflict. He regretted that the peace agreement drafted last year by the Contadora Group is not being enforced, and said that this peace agreement is precious, but has no practical value. Iglesias added that the Contadora Group strives to achieve a negotiated solution to the dispute and that minimum conditions of peace, democratization, and security are being fulfilled.

Regarding the economic situation, Iglesias said that the international situation is still unfavorable for Latin America, and he added that if there are not important changes, it will be very difficult to achieve development. Iglesias took part in the tour through Central America that was carried out 2 weeks ago by the Contadora Group (Colombia, Panama, Mexico, and Venezuela) and by the Contadora Support Group (Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay). Iglesias returned to Uruguay yesterday after attending the ECLA [Economic Commission for Latin America] meeting in Mexico and after visiting several African countries.

USSR'S KOMPLEKTOV ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

FL091552 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0132 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Komplektov has stated that the USSR recognizes the active and constructive role that Mexico plays in the Central American peace process. Interviewed at the Mexico City airport, the Soviet official, who will pay a 2-day official visit to discuss bilateral and international issues, explained that his country favors the Contadora Group's diplomatic efforts for a political settlement to the Central American conflict.

He noted that the USSR and Mexico agree on the need to respect and reinforce the principles of sovereignty, independence, and self-determination of nations.

Commenting on Latin America's external debt, Komplektov said that in order to deal with this problem the area countries should undertake joint efforts. In this connection, he said that the Cartagena Pact could provide alternatives.

In relation to nuclear tests, the Soviet official asserted that the USSR is ready to sign an agreement on a total test ban. Referring to this topic, Soviet Ambassador Rotislav Sergeyev warned that his country would not allow the United States to upset the strategic nuclear arms balance.

Komplektov also described Mexico-USSR relations as good, although he said they could be strengthened further to mutual benefit.

NOTIMEX PROVIDES BACKGROUND OF PEMEX DIRECTOR

FL091835 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1757 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Francisco Rojas Gutierrez, who had been comptroller general, was appointed Pemex director general today. Rojas Gutierrez was designated by President Miguel de la Madrid during a meeting of the administration council held today at 0930 (local) at Pemex headquarters.

The new Pemex director was born in the Federal District 42 years ago and graduated from the National Autonomous University of Mexico with a degree in public accountancy. His thesis was entitled "Professional Ethics."

Among his political activities, Rojas Gutierrez has been finance secretary for the PRI's National Executive Committee, coordinator for national priorities, coordinator for finances and evaluation, and executive secretary of the PRI's national party integration committee.

In the realm of public administration, the new Pemex head was chief of the Budget Control Office and deputy director for finance of the Federal District's Comptroller General's Office. He was also coordinator of the Budget Control Department of Decentralized Agencies; deputy director for budget control; deputy director for the financial, industrial, and energy sector; was later a member of the investment-financing subcommittee, and chief advisor of the deputy secretary of the finance and Public Credit Secretariat.

At the Planning and Budget Secretariat, Rojas Gutierrez was general coordinator for management control, representative and coordinator for the expenditure-financing commission, member of the consultative council for administrative reforms, and member of the energy committee. He did outstanding work as advisor and commission member in Pemex and the federal electricity commission.

Outside of public service, the new Pemex head has practiced his profession in the offices of Roberto Casas Alatriste and Manuel Resa.

NAVY CONDUCTS FIRST MILITARY EXERCISE

PA071637 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 1 Feb 87 p 12

[Text] The Mexican Navy is successfully carrying out its first military exercise, "Alert-87," in the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.

This was reported yesterday by the Navy Secretariat, which also stated that simulated combat on the high seas and on land have been staged on Isla Margarita, Baja California Sur, and in San Luis Carpizo, Campeche.

The maneuvers fall within a training plan that includes the programmed execution of exercise for naval personnel.

"Alert 87-1" [as received] is very important, the secretariat states, because it keeps Mexican sailors up to date on the handling of arms and modern military techniques.

This, the Secretariat explained, improves their ability to protect and preserve the nation's sovereignty at sea and on our coasts and national islands.

Among the equipment being used in the exercise are different types of surface boats, Coast Guard vessels, lifeboats, landing craft, patrol boats, tugboats, and minesweepers.

The exercises are being carried out without undermining the Mexican Navy's routine tasks of protecting the nation's sovereignty, and marine resources, its efforts against drug trafficking, and its assistance to the civilian population in case of disaster.

BRIEFS

MARIJUANA SEIZED -- In various actions carried out in San Luis Potosi, Sonora, Jalisco, Coahuila, Zacatecas, and Nayarit the Federal Judicial Police [PJF] seized more than 5 tons of marijuana with a value of more than $10 million on the black market. A trailer carrying 92 bags of marijuana was seized in San Luis Potosi. In Nogales, Sonora, PJF members seized 4 tons of marijuana they found in a warehouse. The warehouse owner, Javier Macias Hernandes, and his brothers Martin and Enrique, were arrested in connection with the find. [Summary] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Feb 87 pp 1, 3 PA]

COSTA RICAN BORDER REOPENED; ARIAS PROMISES BILL

PA091731 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 9 Feb 87 pp A-1, 1-16

[Excerpt] The Panamanian border was reopened yesterday at the Paso Canoa sector after Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez promised to send a bill to his country's National Assembly to regulate trade in that area.

The border remained closed for over 2 weeks, blocking passage to a large amount of cargo and many vehicles.

The commission appointed by the Panamanian and Costa Rican Governments failed to resolve the problem. The Costa Rican president unexpectedly visited the area yesterday to appraise the situation.

Arias, Panamanian legislator Camilo Gozaine, and Major Luis del Cid, chief of the 5th Military Zone (Chiriqui), discussed the closing of the border and the resulting inconveniences.

Several containers loaded with merchandise were stranded on both sides of the border.

Arias said that he would submit the bill to the Costa Rican Assembly on Tuesday at the latest. The promise allowed the border to be reopened. [passage omitted]

'GUERRILLA GROUP' SURFACES, THREATENS VIOLENCE

PA092122 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 9 Feb 87 p 15

[Text] A fly sheet of an alleged guerrilla group called "MR-14" [expansion unknown] that threatens to commit violent acts against various sectors was delivered to EXTRA's editing office yesterday.

The document is entitled "Report Number One of Year 1" and carries the acronym MR-14 and a symbol that looks like a target.

A line under the heading says "there will be no pardon for traitors." The creation of the MR-14 is reported to the workers and people as a need of the workers and other popular sectors to be able to count on a revolutionary organization born of the people." [quotation mark as published]

One of the actions to be carried out by the group is that of "finding Yito Barrantes' killers sooner rather than later" and seeing that his murderers are punished.

On 14 March 1986, when the National Council of Organized Workers carried out a demonstration to protest Labor Code amendments, members of the antiriot Dobermans Company fired at Barrantes, mortally wounding him.

A complaint was filed with the Attorney General's Office but no member of the Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama has been questioned thus far in this case even though they have been accused of killing Barrantes.

Another MR-14 objective is to lead the people "on the true path to national liberation on the basis of the real composition of the social classes in our country, leaving out infantilism and the submissiveness of the left wing and finding and punishing the traitors in the popular organizations at both the leadership and membership levels."

The list also includes "those who, taking advantage of the state apparatus, betray our homeland and surrender it to the greed of North American imperialism and its usurious and profiteering transnational agencies."

The clandestine group asserts that, in view of the divisive attitude of the "internal and external ruling groups," the "MR-14 is struggling so the year 2000 will find us united, and we have already begun moving forward in this sense."

EISENMANN CONDEMNS PAST, PRESENT REGIMES

PA092223 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 29 Jan 87 p 6-a

[Text] Roberto Eisenmann, editor-in-chief and president of the newspaper LA PRENSA in Panama, said in a news conference that his country's government is involved in drug trafficking, arms trafficking, and money laundering.

Eisenmann, who is in voluntary exile in Miami, briefly summarized his country's history and said that the dictatorial military process under which Panama has lived in recent years has generated absolute corruption.

Eisenmann asserted: "Panama is living in a prolonged dictatorship; the country lacks institutionalization; we have a canal treaty that no democratic Panamanian Government would have approved; there is an increased dependence on the United States; criminal and corrupt government activities prevail at a heretofore unseen level in Panamanian history; we have a new rapacious oligarchy, and a political, economic, and social pressure cooker, that will explode at any moment, and we will all be the losers."

He added: "The Panamanian leaders' arms trafficking, drug trafficking, and money laundering have been reported at length by prestigious international news media like THE NEW YORK TIMES, NBC News, EL TIEMPO in Bogota, EL PAIS in Spain, and others."

The journalist also said that "Panama has suffered its first experiences in military state terrorism" during the last 15 years. He cited as examples the kidnapping and torture of medical labor leader Mauro Zuniga; the death and beheading of Hugo Spadafora, former health minister in the Omar Torrijos Government; and the violent death of Rotary Club President Serafin Mitrotti.

LA PRENSA's director asserted: "None of the world's leaders wants to have his picture taken with (Defense Forces Commander Manual Antonio) Noriega and his top-level officers, who are considered criminals and wield the power in the nation."

Given the irreversible weakening of a an autocratic political process, Eisenmann believes that certain sectors in his country — such as professional and business organizations, civic organizations, some labor unions, student organizations, and the news media -- have become aware of the need for change.

However, this process needs the support of neighboring countries such as Venezuela and Colombia, Eisenmann said. He said: "Recent historical events show us that a nation cannot be liberated from a prolonged autocracy without hope or foreign aid."

COSTA RICA

ARIAS INTERVIEWED ON REGIONAL DEMOCRACY

PA071506 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 0530 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Interview with President Oscar Arias Sanchez by Mexican journalist Jacobo Zabludovsky of the ECO NOTICIAS NEWS AGENCY, at Arias' private residence in San Jose; date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Zabludovsky] Mr President, what are the threats facing Costa Rican democracy?

[Arias] There are many. As in every country in the world, democracy is a very fragile and vulnerable government system. Karl Popper wrote a book entitled "The Open Society and Its Enemies." I believe this book has had a great influence on me. Costa Rica is a very open society, therefore, it has many enemies.

I feel that democracy's biggest enemy is the people's growing lack of respect for their leaders and the leaders' failure to eliminate hypocrisy, cynicism, lies, false promises, and corruption from government activities; the leaders' failure to speak more openly, sincerely, and more frequently with those who elected us. We have not learned that the people must hear what they must know and not what they want to hear. Cynicism is one of the worst threats democracy faces as are the lies told to the voting public. We can see this today in the United States. The U.S. people are complaining because they do not know whether Reagan told the truth regarding Iran and the contras. This is a very big threat.

I am telling you this because during my campaign I said that the worst threat that Costa Rican democracy could face were things like this -- hypocrisy, cynicism, and lies. This is more dangerous than the nine commanders to the north.

An army cannot be a threat to Costa Rica because we do not have an army. For the budding Central American and Latin American democracies, the army continues to be a threat because, as we all know, these armies are more interested in coups d'estat than in defending their countries from foreign enemies. What heppened to Leon Febres Cordero just recently is further proof of this and it is a warning to all those supporting democracy on the continent.

However, for us this is not a threat because we do not have soldiers or colonels. The only army we have is made up of 35,000 teachers. The real threat we have is our democracy's inability to improve our people's standard of living. I wish to reiterate what we all know; democracy is not an end, no political system is an end. It is a means. The only end is man, the human being, the man made of blood and flesh, Rousseau's citizen if you wish. So long as man does not see his standard of living improve, he will continue to question the political system. If the Mexican people continue to get poorer, they will also question their political system. That is the challenge the Mexican Government faces.

I have no doubts that if the Nicaraguan people were free to choose their leaders, they would not choose the FSLN, because after 7 or 8 years, the FSLN has only proven that it is good at impoverishing the people. The FSLN has proven that it is only good at worsening the standard of living of the Nicaraguan people. They are facing a war? That is true. This is why I am trying to stop that war; stop the violence in the northern area. I want to stop the war not only because the Nicaraguan people do not deserve that war but also because of the consequences of the war on Costa Rica.

Therefore, the political system, be it a democracy or a dictatorship, must be efficient. I must show the people that it is a system that will allow them to improve our standard of living. This is the great challenge that the Costa Rican democracy and all the Latin American democracies face. This is not an easy task because of all the problems we have: the foreign debt, which the rich world refuses to understand; selfishness on the part of the northern countries; lack of solidarity surrounding foreign aid; the fact that the price of the products we must buy has increased; the inflation of the industrialized countries of the north that affects us; the current monetary policy; and the closure of markets to Latin American products. As you know, it is not easy to overcome these problems.

[Zabludovsky] Mr President, you have said many things that are worthy of a careful and in-depth analysis. However, there are two things that were quickly imprinted in my mind. The first is Costa Rica's army of 35,000 teachers. That is enviable and deserving of applause, something that the entire world should try to imitate. The second thing you mentioned was the nine commanders and Nicaragua This is a subject we could not avoid and you have brought it into our conversation. I would like you to expand a bit on the way the current Nicaraguan regime influences Costa Rican life. Also, in what way could Nicaragua represent a threat, danger, or change in the region?

[Arias] Regarding your first statement on our teachers, I wish to tell you that education in Costa Rica has been free and compulsory since 1869; 96 percent of the children between 6 and 13 years of age attend school. We probably have one of the lowest illiteracy rates in Latin America. Jacobo, we have achieved this by convincing rather than defeating the people. We have done it through dialogue and persuasion. We have used the taxes paid by the taxpayer to cover the basic needs of our people. Our level of education is among the highest in Latin America; so is our level of health. The most complicated surgical procedure is available here for the poorest man and it is completely free. We allot 8.5 percent of our gross national product to health, and our health system covers everyone in the country.

Now as for Nicaragua, the Nicaraguans are not a very lucky people. Their history has been one of suffering. I know their history well. In recalling the past 50 years we have to mention a tyrant they did not deserve, Anastacio Somoza, all the Somoza family.

Somoza invaded us in 1949 and 1955. Many Costa Ricans went to fight against the Nicaraguan invaders, the Somozist Army. Because of all that had happened in the past, the Costa Rican people resented that dictatorship. My party, from Jose Figueres down to the youngest member of the National Liberation Party, has fought for democracy and wants to see democracy on the continent, especially in the Caribbean and in this Central America that is in such turmoil because of the dictators, the rightist dictators who only knew how to steal from their people. Somoza was no exception. He stole like any other dictator. Because of all this Costa Rica strongly identified with the struggle of the Sandinist army and its attempts to overthrow that corrupt regime. We helped them in the same way that Mexico did, perhaps more because we helped them by lending them our territory. They came here, they lived here. As Costa Rica had no weapons, weapons were brought in to help them. Our territory was used with our knowledge and blessing. But Costa Rica thought that they were fighting for a new Nicaragua, not a second tyranny. This is why today we feel that we have been let down, in a way, betrayed.

I have not said this for Costa Rica but for the Nicaraguan people. I do not want anyone to live under a dictatorship. Sometimes the Costa Ricans do not understand the dual stands among the democrats. Some Europeans who live in a democracy that goes back centuries support the Sandinist regime. The other day I sent a message to one of those democrats asking him if the suggestions he had for Nicaragua were the same suggestions he would make for his own country; a political system without freedom. Silence was his answer.

For this reason Costa Rica has suggested the need for a settlement in Nicaragua and this is why we have fully supported the Contadora Group. Bernardo Sepulveda is a witness to what I am telling you. We have supported the Contadora Group without reservation. Why without reservation? Because I was one of the first in Central America to openly declare, both publicly and in private, that I was against military aid for the contras, the rebels, in Nicaragua. I did this for many reasons of which I will only mention two. On, out of principle, because we believe in the right of nonintervention. This is a right to principle in Latin Ameria. I also did it for another reason, perhaps a selfish reason; because the struggle in Nicaragua, the war in Nicaragua, has bad consequences for Costa Rica. One of my campaign promises was to create jobs for our youth. To create jobs we must invest more. If there is no investment there is no production, and if there is no production we cannot create jobs for our youth.

The war in Nicaragua does not allow us to create the necessary environment for promoting investment; for promoting trust, so that the Costa Rican capitalist will not export his money to a bank in Panama, Miami, or Switzerland, but will be willing to take a risk and leave his money here to improve his farm or expand his factory. The war in Nicaragua makes this impossible. I always use a phrase, almost a slogan [preceding word in English]; I keep saying that the war in Nicaragua is incompatible with the Costa Rican economic development. All my campaign promises, from the promise to create more jobs and build 80,000 homes in these 4 years, to all the other things -- all my promises have collapsed like a house of cards because the war in Nicaragua continues.

Also, as Mexico, did, we must reach an agreement with the IMF in order to renegotiate our debt. This is because of the so-called requirements, whereby the conditions imposed by an international bank are also valid for the World Bank, the private banks, the AID, and for everyone. I have been in office for almost 9 months and I have not been able to sign an agreement with the IMF because we cannot reach an agreement regarding the deficit. Our public spending has increased and one of the main reasons for its growth is that every day thousands cross the Nicaraguan border into Costa Rica and Costa Rica must increase its spending to eliminate diseases that the Nicaraguans are bringing into the country and which we had already eradicated from our country. That is the case of malaria. We must give them a roof; they have to be treated like human beings because they are human beings. We must give them an education, give them schools. If they enter the country with an illness they must be taken to a hospital. Therefore we have been forced to increase our public spending and it has been impossible to reach an agreement with the IMF.

Jacobo, there are a thousand reasons why Costa Rica has a special interest in seeing this war end. This is why we support Contadora. This is why on 8 May, when I was sworn in as president of Costa Rica, I said that Contadora represented Simon Bolivar's cry for freedom and added that Contadora's peacemaking efforts had to be given a deadline to prevent the never-ending discussions. Contadora has been working for the past 4 years and Bernardo Sepulveda's efforts for the past 4 years are something that we and the whole world must appreciate. This must have affected many of the important tasks that he must undertake for the Mexican Foreign Secretariat. However, all his efforts, all the efforts made by the four countries that form the Contadora Group and the four countries that form the Support Group have been useless. They have not been able to find a peaceful solution.

During the Contadora and Support Groups' recent visit to Costa Rica I told them that nothing more could be invented. Costa Rica cannot invent warm water or the umbrella because all this has already been invented. What we must do is what they have already recommended. We know what must be done. Fine, then let us do it. But we must do it now, not leave it for tomorrow. In a few words, that is the new Costa Rican proposal. We invented nothing new, all we asked is for immediate action.

Jacobo, the important thing is that the Central American countries reach an agreement and that we all, without reservations, support the Contadora proposals and set a deadline. The day the world and Washington hear the same proposal being presented by Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica, it will not be possible to say no. And if our proposal is a cease-fire, negotiations, search for peace, with the final outcome being free and democratic elections in Nicaragua, then there will be no reason to continue the struggle and the war.

Costa Rica has its own views and these do not have to be accepted by everyone. We made this known to the 10 prominent guests who visited our country a few days ago. Costa Rica feels that there will be no peace in Central America as long as there is no democracy. The problem in Central America is not one of injustice. There are other areas of Latin America where there is injustice -- for example, in the Caribbean -- but why name names? There is more injustice in other areas than in Central America.

There are more social inequality and fewer opportunities in other countries. The main reason for guerrillas, violence, and war in Central America is the permanent mockery of the people by the leaders they chose, the fact that they voted and that their vote was not respected. This is why El Salvador has guerrillas. We must remember that Jose Napoleon Duarte was forced to leave the country because a real and truly exemplary election was nullified.

Well then, with or without contras and with or without military aid, I continue to think that there will be violence in Nicaragua if the Nicaraguan people cannot elect their leaders freely. If there is violence in Nicaragua, it hurts Costa Rica. This, then, is Costa Rica's somewhat selfish reason for achieving peace in Nicaragua. Costa Rica as as interested as Mexico in this.

[Zabludovsky] Have you set a deadline for practical results from the Contadora efforts?

[Arias] We are going to propose it in a document that we are drafting. We want a cease-fire and an amnesty very soon. However, to be realisitic, no one can propose impossible conditions. Let me remind you that politics is the art of the possible and not always the art of the desirable. We already know what the Sandinists reject and we are not going to be disrespectful by proposing something that they would reject -- for example, talking with the contras. We have never thought of proposing that they talk with the contras. However, they can talk with those who oppose the Sandinist regime inside Nicaragua, who have participated in the country's political life, and who have certain political freedom within the country. I do not see, either, why they cannot talk with the church.

Well then, we just do not want to propose anything that would be unacceptable to the Sandinists. However, what we propose must be supported by Contadora, the entire world, and the rest of Latin America, and Western Europe.

We must determine if the Sandinists are acting in good faith and if they will fulfill their promises, even if they did not fulfill their 1979 promises. There is also the 1983 document of objectives, signed by Daniel Ortega. They were the famous 21 Contadora points which are constantly mentioned. One of these 21 points, number 4, involved the commitment of the five Central American countries to fight for pluralism, the democratization of Central America, and free elections.

We are not asking the Sandinists to deliver something they have not already promised to deliver.

[Zabludovsky] Have you talked with Daniel Ortega about this?

[Arias] No, not with Daniel Ortega but I did mention it to the 10 distinguished visitors who were just here.

[Zabludovsky] During Somoza's time, Costa Rica was the site of preparations to end the Nicaraguan dictatorship. Is Costa Rica still the site of efforts against Nicaraguan leaders?

[Arias] No. It is not a territory being used against the current Nicaraguan leaders. It is a territory, more than that, it is a people who are not happy with what is happening in Nicaragua.

[Zabludovsky] Are you referring to the Costa Ricans or to the more than 100,000 Nicaraguan refugees who are apparently here.

[Arias] No, I said that the Costa Ricans are not completely pleased with what is happening in Nicaragua. I repeat, we think that it is not what the Sandinists promised the Nicaraguan people. Nicaragua does not deserve a new dictatorship of a different kind. Why should Costa Rica recommend to Nicaraguans a system of government that we would not want for ourselves?

Why should any country recommend that type of system to the Nicaraguans if that country would not want it for itself? I think that there is a duality that should not exist.

Now, then, Jacobo, there are 125,000 Nicaraguans here. They represent 5 percent of the population. They are half of the foreigners in this country. There are 250,000 foreigners in Costa Rica. In per capita terms, perhaps no other Latin American country has this many foreigners. We have only 2.5 million inhabitants. This forces us to incur very large expenses in the humble development of our own world. The expenses are too large for the economic difficulties we have.

So we told these 125,000 Nicaraguans: Costa Rica will not tolerate your abuse of its hospitality. Costa Rica will not allow you to violate its neutrality. They have been given that message very clearly.

[Zabludovsky] Mr. President, what is it when you refer to active neutrality in this region, on the part of Costa Rica?

[Arias] Basically, to us Latin Americans it is better to talk of nonintervention. Costa Rica will not lend its territory so that any Nicaraguan enjoying our political asylum and hospitality can use it against our government's will. I have repeatedly said this: Costa Rica will not lend its territory for any kind of hostility against the Sandinist government.

We are neutral in the Central American conflicts. We have to be that way because if we would become involved in the armed struggle we would have to purchase weapons and reestablish an army.

On 1 December 1986, I signed a decree commemorating the 38th anniversary of the abolition of the army. I signed this decree to make it a holiday, a day our children and many generations to come will remember as a day on which, Jose Figueres, a man with a great vision, converted the San Jose Garrison into the National Museum, which is now the Bella Vista Garrison. [as heard]

So, you can imagine the inconsistency in the fact that the contras use our territory and endanger Costa Rica's security. If the contras -- pardon me, the Sandinists were to invade us tomorrow with the army or half the army they have, it means that it would take them 10 or 15 minutes to come from Managua to San Jose.

Therefore, the only defense we have, although it seems ironical or paradoxical, is the strengthening of the inter-American judicial system, the OAS, and the initiative of groups like Contadora, which are seeking a peaceful solution to the problem and not a war. Thus, this neutrality means that Costa Rica respects the right of nonintervention.

[Zabludovsky] How much does Costa Rica spend on weapons?

[Arias] Nothing, because we do not have them. All we have is a few guns that our policemen use some times. We do have approximately 8,000 policemen, including civil and rural guardsmen. In Costa Rica, a child does not know what a helicopter gunship or a war plane is. A child has never seen a machinegun or an antiaircraft weapon here in Costa Rica.

If someone has seen a tank here in Costa Rica, it is because of television or the movies. We do not have a single tank here. All we have here are a few rifles and that is all. I think that the reason for our political stability lies precisely in that.

It would be crazy to arm ourselves and to continue doing that; cutting down on resources for education, nutrition, housing, hospitals, roads, running water, and electricity. So it would be senseless for Costa Rica to reestablish its army.

Jacobo, you can be completely certain that the Costa Ricans in the year 2000 and subsequent years will not remember me as the president who reestablished the army. On the contrary, we are stressing the importance of peace. [passage omitted]

[Zabludovsky] Please explain something to me; we have seen that in all the countries, perhaps not everywhere in the world, but in Latin America with the exception of Costa Rica, it is said that the army safeguards the democratic institutions. However, in some countries, the army is the first to make these institutions disappear. Who defends the democratic institutions in Costa Rica when there is no army to protect those institutions and those who head them?

[Arias] The safeguard of our institutions is the people's identification with the system of government and the credibility of these institutions. They may be bad but we must recall when Churchill said that while democracy might be a bad system of government, it is nevertheless the best one we know.

What is the legitimacy of the Costa Rican democracy? It is the fact that everyone knows that Oscar Arias is the president because the majority wanted it that way. [passage omitted]

Nobody questions the system. If the president is bad, the people wait 4 years and change him through elections. They do not have to resort to weapons, because the polling booths are both always open, waiting for the day of the elections. This is what basically gives the greatest legitimacy to our institutions. It explains the social peace and coexistence which makes Costa Rica a small, peaceful island and the leader of democracy in this strife-torn Central America.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE SPEAKS ON TAX LAW, PRESSURE CAMPAIGN

PA221749 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Speech to the nation by President Jose Napoleon Duarte in San Salvador; date not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] Good evening, Salvadorans. As president of the Republic I am responsible for securing social harmony and preserving the nation's peace and tranquillity.

In addition, it is my duty to implement proper and, if necessary, harsh measures, to direct the country to a situation of economic stability. In this way we will overcome the serious problems afflicting the country's finances and, at the same time, create a better situation for the nation's poorest sector.

Our difficult social situation forms the backdrop to the conflict we now face. It is the result of a long era of human exploitation and the irresponsible mismanagement of public administration.

With this in mind, I would now like to refer to the attitude of certain groups of businessmen who place their personal and political interests before those of the workers. These businessmen have begun a campaign to pressure the government to get the tax laws repealed, making public appeals and calling for people to violate these laws.

This is a political initiative using every means available, including coercion, which is used in their call for a businessmen's stoppage and their attempt to boycott the international fair scheduled for February.

In addition, it must be noticed that this stoppage was synchronized with the so-called parliamentary strike that was started by the deputies of certain opposition parties. It also coincides with the actions carried out by the FMLN-FDR rebel groups.

With this campaign, they claim that the laws are unconstitutional, unfair, and were not discussed with the sector these businessmen claim to represent, thus justifying their instigation and call to violate the laws.

They seem to forget that the laws that are promulgated must be observed and that no group or sector can claim, just because they feel like it, a right that belongs to the judicial branch. It is the judicial branch which is tasked with deciding whether a law is constitutional or not.

It is good to recall that Article 131, No 6 [as heard] of the Constitution establishes that the Legislative Assembly must decree taxes, charges, and other contributions on all goods, services, and incomes on a fair basis. It is also good to recall that all requirements established in the Constitution to create these laws have been met.

Regarding the alleged unfairness, I want to insist that all citizens must contribute to the extent of their possibilities. Therefore, their assets and income are the main sources to measure these economic possibilities that will determine the tax to be paid.

Consequently, those who have more resources must contribute more while those who have less income or capital deserve a treatment that eases their tax burden or releases them from it.

In addition, the new tax legislation is an instrument for tax redistribution and justice that did not exist in the previous legislation.

Regarding the consultation with sectors interested in the decisions made by the government, we must recall that the great principles that move the policies of my administration include the participation of citizens. This has been done whenever possible and advisable for society.

In this specific case, we consulted many sectors. We consulted businessmen personally, and they expressed their views prior to and after the laws were promulgated. Various suggestions were heard and included in the preparation of the bills amending the tax laws to improve them technically and achieve a greater degree of fiscal justice.

As a result of the dialogue with these businessmen and following a calm and objective assessment, many changes and technical improvements were made. Among others, we solved the cigarette and beer problems. The tax on assets was dropped from 4 to 2.4 percent.

In the case of corporations, we avoided double or triple taxation. The value of property damaged by the earthquake and the war can be deducted from the tax to be paid on assets.

In addition, the sovereignty tax can be paid with agrarian reform bonds.

We have been, are, and will continue to be willing to correct technical defects that may exist without changing the essence and basic objectives sought.

These actions contrast with what occurred in the meetings with certain union representatives who, with their intransigent attitude, made reaching any agreement impossible. This became particularly true when they converted a purely technical matter into a political problem which they are using to promote disturbances and public disorder with open calls to disobey the laws.

These intentions of certain leaders of businessmen's organizations, at these critical moments experienced by the nation, are more than a defiance of the legally established authority. These intentions have become the beginning of a coordinated effort aimed at breaking the law and putting an end to the de jure system which was so hard to establish. Deep down, it is really a regressive and political action aimed at recovering positions lost in 1979 for the sake of personal financial interests.

This struggle is easily linked to attempts to eliminate the plans for structural changes and weaken the political democratic process. To prove this, I will ask the operator to play one of the recordings of the Chamber of Commerce sessions.

[Begin Chamber of Commerce recording] [Unidentified speaker] If in 1979 there were reasons for an Armed Forces proclamation declaring a rebellion, these reasons prevail today but to a greater degree. We, as Salvadorans, must, and have the right to declare ourselves in rebellion.

[Second unidentified speaker] There is a legal way -- and we all know this -- for a presidential succession. We definitely feel that a person like Abraham Rodriguez could bring about a change within the economic panorama which could be healthy to achieve...[end recording]

[Duarte interrupting] It is a challenge [words indistinct] that the system permits to encourage forces that promote the overthrow or destabilization of the government. The call to fiscal rebellion, the violation of the law, and the collective action to stop the productive sector is an act of serious irresponsibility in the face of the country's future, particularly because of the armed conflict we are experiencing.

In fact, the attempt to destabilize the government, at a time when a struggle to defend the country's sovereignty is under way against the armed terrorist groups -- sponsored from abroad, no doubt -- aids the intentions of the extremist groups. Those who want to destabilize the government are not considering the fact that the armed left wants to seize political power based on an ideology whose main principle is the implementation of a proletarian dictatorship which goes against the democratic principles confirmed by the Constitution and the free-enterprise system.

The two radical sectors have confused the tolerance needed in the effort to build democracy with a lack of authority. Democracy is not weak because it is based on the strongest authority: that stemming from the people and backed by the people.

Under the current circumstances, let us recall the statement by the illustrious General Charles de Gaulle who said: The essential legitimacy stems not from the multiple, uncertain, and conflictive representatives of the factions that divide the nation but from the feelings, hopes, and institutions that, on the contrary, try to unite it.

I am very much aware of the fact the private sector has different opinions and many of them are responsible and patriotic and do not favor or support the actions proposed by the leaders I have been referring to. On the contrary, these groups remain independent or are part of other associations. The small, medium, and large businessmen and industrialists are private businessmen. Their number is such that it allows us to say that the term private enterprise is democratic and nonclassist.

I clearly stress that I believe in the private enterprise system in the terms stated in the country's Constitution, in other words, under the necessary conditions to increase the national wealth and to extend the benefits of this wealth to the largest number of inhabitants.

The Constitution guarantees economic freedom as long as it does not oppose the social interest and recognizes private property as a social right.

I have publicly and privately stated that I am not an enemy of the private sector. I tell the conscientious businessmen that it is not conceivable or acceptable that, for the sake of group solidarity, or under the pretext of pressure or influence, they lend themselves to all kinds of manipulations to attack the de jure system and the country's authorities by promoting the political plans of other leaders with coupist intentions. With these intentions, these leaders are politicizing the businessmen's actions as a group.

The call for a strike is a way for social confrontation and civil disobedience that establishes grave precedents for the country's future with unpredictable consequences.

How can businessmen ask workers to abide by the law if they are violating it openly?

Dear television viewers, allow me to repeat this question which is very important: How can businessmen ask workers to abide by the law if they are violating it openly?

The organizers, leaders, and sponsors of the stoppage are aware of the legal implications of their actions when they incite other businessmen to break the law.

A de facto situation can also lead to disorder and violence. Those who carry out the actions as well as those who incited them will be equally responsible. This stoppage is as much of a de facto action as it is to seize enterprises or to carry out the rebel's armed actions.

Let me repeat this to you: In the promotion of disorders and violence, those who carry those actions out as well as those who incite them to do it are equally responsible. This stoppage, promoted by the businessmen, is as much a de facto action as it is to seize enterprises or to carry out the rebels' armed actions.

The law gives the resource to channel the demands of those who feel that their rights are affected. In addition, there is the media and political mechanisms protected by the freedom of expression which, without disrupting public order, permit the expression of thoughts and the voicing of political disagreements.

To back criminal actions that affect the security of individuals results in juridical and economic self-destruction because, by carrying out actions similar to those carried out by individuals who seize factories and businesses, they, these businessmen, are promoting actions that they rejected before.

In conclusion, I remind you that it is the responsibility of every legitimate government to maintain order and lead the country to a legal stability and a de jure system.

The call for the political-business strike should be seriously analyzed by Salvadorans who, from their work sites, favor the strengthening of the democratic system and the establishment of a de jure system.

These primary concepts are precisely the targets of the so-called strike.

The so-called political-business strike and the rebel stoppage intend to place many sectors between the devil and the deep blue sea, forcing them to act against their will. On one hand, the politicians-businessmen force their employees not to work and on the other, the FMLN terrorists burn and machinegun vehicles.

The small extreme rightists groups, as long as they eliminate the possibilities for the continuing of the democratic process, do not care if they have to repeat the slogan used in Nicaragua: We want anything but Somoza. [Queremos cualquier cosa menos Somoza.]

If they succeed they will have this "anything". They will have the FMLN in power. They will go off to live in Miami, and we will stay to fight, always on the side of the people, trying to defend them from a totalitarian dictatorship that would be very hard to change.

I close with a call for reflection. Let us not forget that the guarantee and chance to live in an open society depend on the respect of the rights order that are being threatened now.

Salvadorans, I reiterate my unyielding faith and devotion to democracy. I trust that we will continue walking together in the defense of liberty and justice.

Salvadorans, thank you, and good evening.

GUATEMALA

URNG ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON 7TH ANNIVERSARY

PA100036 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 9 Feb 87 p 17

[Text] On the occasion of its 7th anniversary, the URNG has issued a statement to the media saying: "We shall never lay down our arms nor will we give up our struggle while the causes of our insurgency continue unchanged."

The URNG, in its four-page letter-size document, analyzes Guatemala's political and socioeconomic situation as well as explaining why the organization was created.

The document also says that during 1986 the URNG faced "great and permanent military offensives which the Army launched against the guerrilla zones. The Army attempted to cover up these activities in the wake of the state of unrest created by the civilian government."

The URNG added that the Army was determined to strike with deadly blows at the revolutionary forces, but instead, the URNG forces "inflicted heavy casualties among the troops and expanded their military activity toward new zones."

The statement adds: "In the May 1986 communique we listed points we considered indispensable for the opening of a real democratization process. They are basic, unavoidable points. However, in preliminary talks we could broaden these points with some ideas as a prelude to the possibilities we see at this point in time."

"We could touch on the subject of humanizing the war based on the Geneva agreements with respect to combatants and the civilian population."

The URNG proposal goes on to say: "The total respect for human rights not only involves repression, torture, and kidnappings, but the freedom of movement, residency, and association would be other topics. We could touch on the subject of national unity and integration, which would cover the need to end the disorganization affecting most Guatemalans, and restrictions, threats, and terrorist methods that prevent the return of Guatemalans to their fatherland."

In another part of the proposal, the URNG states that "we are interested in talking about a real policy of active neutrality which will not be used to cover logistic bridges used to feed mercenaries and U.S. interventionist agents in Nicaragua, or used for collateral political intrigues."

"We could mention the conditions needed to form the biggest and broadest alliance known in the history of Guatemala, to build an advanced, popular, and independent democracy. In other words, a new historical commitment. We repeat, the problem is not the guerrilla movement, but the social causes that created the need for its inception and development."

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT SENDS PROTEST NOTE TO NICARAGUA

PA100405 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 7 Feb 87 p 7

[Letter to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, from Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras, dated 4 February 1987; delivered to Nicaraguan Ambassador to Honduras Danilo Abud Vivas on 5 February]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 4 February 1987

Mr Minister

I have the honor of addressing you to protest to your government over the incomprehensible press note published today by the Nicaraguan Embassy in Honduras, following instructions from the ministry, in the newspaper TIEMPO of San Pedro Sula.

I hereby protest to you for the expressions offensive to the dignity of the Honduran people and government stated in the mentioned press note, which fiercely attack at the same time the sister Republics of Guatemala, Costa Rica, and El Salvador.

To call the Central American democracies, that have free governments elected by the people's sovereign will neocolonies is to distort the isthmus political reality.

With no intentions to prejudge the reasons that encouraged you to publish the mentioned note, I wish to state that Honduran President Jose Azcona will attend the Central American summit of democratic presidents to be held in San Jose, at the cordial invitation of His Excellency the Costa Rican President Dr Oscar Arias.

The aggressiveness of the terms of the note published in the newspaper TIEMPO contrasts with the discretion observed by the Honduran Government when Sandinist rulers have held fraternal meetings in Managua or abroad with representatives of the most repressive totalitarian countries in the world.

I take this opportunity to express to Your Excellency my highest and distinguished consideration.

Carlos Lopez Contreras, foreign minister

AZCONA OUTLINES ECONOMIC, EXPORT POLICIES

PA290244 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1718 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Speech by President Jose Azcona Hoyo at the Manuel Bonilla National Theater in Tegucigalpa on 20 January -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Presidential designates; president of the Supreme Court; Dr Reginaldo Panting, minister of economy and commerce; ministers; president of the Honduran Central Bank; deputies of the National Congress; justices of the Supreme Court; Dr Jorge Gomez Andino, president of the Honduran Council for Private Enterprise, COHEP; U.S. ambassador; representative of the UN Development Program, [acronym indistinct]; representatives of the diplomatic corps; representatives of international missions; businessmen; ladies and gentlemen:

Economic recovery, the maintenance of peace, and the consolidation of the democratic process are the leading goals of the regime I am honored to head. [passage omitted]

I am seeking consolidation in all fields of national life. I am asking for the understanding and support of all the citizens and all the organized sectors so that progress and well-being can become concrete ideals for the national community's enjoyment. It is within this context that I place this event, which is of singular relevance in promoting the country's development, an event in which we urge the nation to unite in working for the growth and diversification of Honduran exports so we can take reasonable advantage of the trade facilities offered by the international market.

During a recent appearance by government representatives before the business sectors of the Caribbean Basin countries at the Miami conference in 1986, I said that the increasing interdependence of economic relations among countries would lead to the search for new forms of regional integration, of new forms of international cooperation, of new forms of associations among businesses and people in order to reactivate the economic process upon the bases of interaction, effort, and benefits for all.

Based on this reality, and by taking advantage of the experiences gained from using other models, the Honduran Government will center its strategy for Honduras' socioeconomic development on the execution of policies that will stimulate the growth and diversification of our exports. Therefore, we are building a physical and juridical infrastructure that will create an atmosphere favorable to investment, a socially appropriate and sufficiently broad atmosphere that will motivate our private sector to create wealth.

I am determined to deserve and maintain the confidence of all national and foreign investors by adopting and implementing clear and consistent economic measures in keeping with our reality. I am developing a program of structural reforms for the national economy with the application of measures especially aimed at rationalizing the public sector's operations, increasing the competitiveness of our exports, and promoting private investment.

This program of structural reforms contains a fundamental change: the establishment of an outward development strategy by strongly supporting exportable products, with an emphasis on nontraditional products. It will also include strengthening the exportation of traditional products -- in other words, to make our country an exporting country, especially of agricultural and agro-industrial products.

The process of privatizing the leading economic activities protects collective strategies and establishes the most important part of this line of action. The answer we expect from the private sector is that it will become the true engine of development, assuming its natural role in the community with responsibility and patriotism. [applause] It falls to the private sector to set the vehicles of development in motion, creating new and efficient units of agro-industrial production; increasing and broadening those in existence; developing, adapting, or simply applying technologies adequate to the environment or to the product that will be marketed; improving the quality of Honduran products to their highest levels, which will allow them to compete on the international market; contributing to training Honduran labor; promoting productivity; and rationally taking advantage of national resources -- all in all, producing goods and improving their competitive skills.

In the effort to stimulate national awareness, and the existence of real and potential exporters who respect the importance of an effective and dynamic process to promote exports, the government has the dedicated cooperation of national and international organizations.

Ladies and gentlemen, with deep faith in the nation's future; convinced of the intelligence, industry, and patriotism of the Honduran businessmen, laborers, and peasants; grateful for the cooperation received from friendly countries and international organizations; aware of the fact that the strategy of promoting exports and investments will yield positive results for the economic development, peace, and well-being of all Hondurans; with the solemnity of the moment and this location, for this event, I am honored to declare 1987 the year of exports. Thank you. [applause]

EPS PATROL ATTACKS ARMY POSITION, KILLS SOLDIER

PA091928 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Luis Alonso Gomez report from El Paraiso Department]

[Text] On Sunday, 1 February, an EPS patrol attacked a Honduran Army position located in (Tronco de Ocote), which is 300 meters from the border in Arenales jurisdiction. The EPS patrol tried to storm the Honduran position. Soldier Juan Ramon Ardon Castellanos of the 6th Infantry Brigade was killed. He was shot in the chest, stomach, and leg. According to scant information, the Sandinist soldiers attacked the Honduran position in an attempt to storm it. However, Honduran soldiers repelled the attack and the invaders fled to their country.

In December, the Honduran soldiers captured this position after removing invading troops which had controlled it for several days.

The Honduran Armed Forces has not officially reported this new EPS aggression. However, reliable sources gave us the information. Soldier Juan Ramos Castellanos was buried with military honors in Bucara, his hometown.

Another incident was reported on Thursday [no date given] at an undisclosed location on the border when a booby trap went off. Private Amilcar Javier Yanez, from Danli, was seriously injured.

So far this year, three Honduran soldiers have been killed and others [number not given] have been seriously injured. The zone is under the control of the Honduran Army. However, there have been frequent skirmishes. Moreover, the search for mines continues in order to prevent residents and soldiers from getting hurt.

BRIEFS

NEW PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR -- President Jose Azcona yesterday received the credentials of new Peruvian Ambassador Jaime Castro Mendivil during a ceremony in the Pink Room at the Government Palace. News media had previously commented that the ambassador has been waiting for 1 month, and this was linked to President Azcona's statements that Peruvian President Alan Garcia -- who is a member of the Support Group -- has taken sides with Nicaragua. [Excerpts] [Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 5 Feb 87 p 3 PA]

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA DISCUSSES CASE AGAINST COSTA RICA, HONDURAS

PA062211 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] We are willing to reach an agreement outside of The Hague as long as Costa Rica and Honduras arrive at specific agreements with Nicaragua and provide guarantees that their territories will not be used to attack Nicaragua, as is currently happening, Nicaraguan President Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra said yesterday.

The Nicaraguan president made this statement when asked if Nicaragua would withdraw its charges against Costa Rica and Honduras before the International Court of Justice.

Commander Ortega Saavedra said that our government has acted normally in accordance with international law by filing suit against Honduras and Costa Rica for their violation of international law.

COMMENTARY BERATES ABRAMS' VIEWS OF CONTADORA

PA100155 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 87

["Analysis of Misinformation" commentary by Onofre Guevara]

[Text] The EEC foreign ministers will begin an important meeting today in Guatemala with their counterparts of the four Contadora Group countries and the five Central American countries. According to the agenda, the foreign ministers will try to find formulas for economic, technological, and social cooperation between the EEC and the five Central American countries.

Undoubtedly, none of those three essential aspects of cooperation can be detached from the political situation created in Central America as a result of U.S. aggression against Nicaragua. Hence, the Yankees have reinforced their hegemony over the neighboring governments, particularly in the military field, in a campaign against Nicaragua.

Although it is not officially in the agenda, the topic of war is not only inseparable from the other topics but transcends them in importance. The importance of the meeting could only attract U.S. interest, given that the United States is the main factor causing the area's instability.

In fact, months before the meeting, Elliott Abrams, the assistant U.S. secretary of state for inter-American affairs, who is also the most notorious promoter of the attacks against Nicaragua, started a propaganda campaign to influence the European and Latin American foreign ministers and to justify U.S. policy in Central America. The primary purpose of that campaign was to divert attention from the economic and social problems and to focus on the political objective of blaming Nicaragua for the situation and, if possible, getting support for the Tegucigalpa Bloc and its plan to intervene in Nicaragua using the pretext that there is no democracy here.

Abrams mounted a publicity stunt in late January, in which he used the USIS machinery and the technology of satellite transmissions to reach the European governments within the EEC and to journalists in those same countries.

Imperialism's message to Europe revolved around three points: 1. That Nicaragua has become a threat to U.S. security, and hence for democracy, including its democracy; 2. That the defense against that alleged threat rests on its mercenaries, for whom it requested -- almost demanded -- military aid, but mainly publicity supports; 3. That the Contadora Group is good and well-intentioned, but -- citing Abrams -- at times it seems the Contadora Group does not support democracy.

The intention is clear: At the Guatemala meeting, imperialism hopes the Contadora Group will be seen as an unsuccessful initiative; that the Washington-backed contras will no longer be viewed in Europe with mistrust and contempt; and that the EEC aid for the four Central American countries will not be only in the economic field, but also in the military and political fields against Nicaragua, which Abrams disguises as a struggle for democracy in our country.

Imperialism's efforts to convince and attract the EEC countries to its viewpoints and its political actions in Central America were expressed in this exhortation: open quote, when the 12 EEC foreign ministers meet with their Central American counterparts in Guatemala to discuss economic matters, I hope that they will also discuss democracy, end quote. To link this idea of democracy with the situation in Nicaragua, a country that lacks the democracy it has imposed in the rest of the isthmus, Abrams added a question with clear intentions: quote, do you know that the Nicaraguan Constitution promulgated last week was in effect 3 hours and 45 minutes before President Ortega suspended it? That is what should be discussed at the meeting, end quote.

For Abrams, it was a perfect finishing touch: to show there is not even a formal trace of democracy in Nicaragua. He tried to conceal the following facts: 1) that the Nicaraguan Constitution is in effect; only 15 of the 202 articles and some of them only partially , were suspended; 2) that those 15 articles were suspended in accordance with constitutional law; 3) that the reason for the state of emergency is the Yankee aggression and the actions of its mercenaries; 4) that the legal action is directed against those who attack the revolution and support the imperialist aggression; 5) that the same people who inspired, discussed, and approved the Constitution also support the state of emergency to defend themselves from U.S. attacks.

No foreign minister in the world believes a gross liar such as Abrams except, of course, for his lackeys in the treacherous Central American bloc.

PASTORA COMMENTS ON CIA, CONTRAS' STRUGGLE

PA091728 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 9 Feb 87 p 21

[Text] It has been 7 months since Eden Pastora, "Commander Zero," abandoned the armed struggle in southern Nicaragua and requested political asylum in Costa Rica. Now he has reappeared in Samara, a small village on the Nicoya Peninsula, on Nicaragua's [as published] Pacific coast, where he is busy with a new adventure. He has traded a machinegun for fishing hooks: Pastora is setting up a fishing company.

I am not frustrated, he said, adding that his conscience is clear because he did not let his people down. He stressed: "It was not the Managua commanders who defeated me, but the CIA, which could not manipulate [manejar] me and mistrusted my nationalist, revolutionary ideas. I deeply regret, however, the death in combat of 3,800 of my men, who were sacrificed in vain."

He added, with a grin: "The only covert war the CIA has won is the one it waged against us. It has lost all of the others. The United States always follows the same pattern: It supports the most reactionary sectors and rejects revolutionary dissidents who enjoy credibility."

He said the "contras" cannot win because they lack support from the people, youths, workers, and large peasant sectors, and particularly because they lack a political and ideological platform." [quotation marks as published]

He said that in Nicaragua, the "contras" are referred to as "the guardsmen," which is not altogether wrong, because the former Somozist guardsmen force peasant youths to join their ranks and take them away to camps in Honduras. There, they cut their hair and force them to train for weeks. Instead of building up their morale to make them idealist guerrillas, they depersonalize and demoralize them. The peasants are turned into guardsmen, into a repressive and killing machine. The guardsmen murder prisoners of war and continue to say "yes, sir." The "contras" will never be able to enter Managua.

Pastora said the State Department offered him $1.5 million to continue the struggle under its orders. He sharply criticized the corruption rampant within the FDN, saying the fighters received only 10 percent of the $27 million in assistance to the "contras," and that $60 million of the $100 million which was recently obtained has already "vanished into thin air."

He said "contra" chief Adolfo Calero is a loyal soldier of the CIA, a pawn whose only merit is having been a Coca Cola salesman.

ORTEGA SENDS GREETINGS TO ANGOLAN PRESIDENT

PA100447 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 7 Feb 87 p 5

[Letter sent to His Excellency Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola; of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, MPLA; and chairman of the Party of Labor, PT, from Daniel Ortega Saavedra; dated 4 February]

[Text] Dear President and Friend,

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the initiation of the armed struggle for the liberation of Angola I wish to express on behalf of the Nicaraguan people and

government and myself, our fraternal salute to you, your people, government, movement, and in particular to your party, the MPLA-PT, on this very significant date in the history of the South African people's struggle for their national liberation.

I wish to take this memorable occasion to reiterate to you our firm support in the struggle being waged by the Frontline States against apartheid and the criminal aggression promoted by the opprobrious Pretoria regime against the legitimate rights to sovereignty and self-determination of the Southern African countries.

Nicaragua, as a nonaligned nation and victim of a cruel aggression against its sovereign rights, wants to express once again its solidarity with the just cause of the Angolan people and government in favor of its inalienable rights to peace, security and independence.

Dear president and friend, please receive the fraternal and solidary regards from the Nicaraguan people and Government on this day of deep patriotic meaning.

Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

ORTEGA, FSLN GREET UGANDA ON ANNIVERSARY

PA100321 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 7 Feb 87 p 2

[President Daniel Ortega's letter to Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni -- dated Managua, 6 Feb]

[Text] Managua, 6 Feb 1987

"No One Surrenders Here!"

Comrade Yoweri Museveni,
President of the National Resistance Movement and
President of the Republic of Uganda, Kampala

Dear Comrade:

The FSLN National Directorate and its militants, the people and Government of Nicaragua, greet the 6th anniversary of the beginning of the struggle the National Resistance Army [NRA] carried out on 6 February 1981 against the antipopular regimes that repressed and massacred the Ugandan people.

The military action against the Kabamba Infantry School, which was carried out by the NRA, marked a new phase in Uganda's history and began a struggle process which 1 year ago made it possible to establish a government seeking to defend the most sacred national interests, accepting the challenge to rebuild amid the destruction inherited from the oppressors, to create dignified living conditions for future generations.

We are convinced that the popular support given to the party and government over which you preside will continue to bring new and greater success in the development of the national reconstruction process that is included in the NRA's revolutionary plans.

We avail ourselves of the occasion to reassert our friendship and solidarity and with the Ugandan people, government, and particularly the NRA.

Fraternally,

Daniel Ortega Saavedra

ORTEGA SENDS LETTER TO TANZANIA'S NYERERE

PA101239 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 7 Feb 87 p 2

[Letter from President Daniel Ortega to Julius K. Nyerere, chairman of Revolutionary Party of Tanzania; dated 5 February]

[Text] Managua, 5 February 1987, "No One Surrenders Here"

Comrade Julius K. Nyerere

General Secretariat, Chama Cha Mapinduzi [Revolutionary Party of Tanzania, CCM]

Tanzania

Dear Comrade:

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Arusha Declaration and the 10th anniversary of the CCM, the FSLN and the people of Nicaragua want to convey through you our warmest revolutionary greetings to your brother country.

In the present international circumstances, characterized by the crisis of the so-called neocolonialist system, with enormous inequalities caused by the indebtedness of Third World countries and by the inevitable collapse of the apartheid racial segregation system, the principles and concepts contained in the Arusha Declaration continue to prevail as the plan of action to be followed by the countries that aim to build a new society.

In the same way, the 10 years of the CCM synthesize the united progressive determination of the best sons of Tanzania to safeguard their independence and inspire [the desire for] independence in other countries of the continent, in spite of the difficulties and efforts they have had to face.

Joining the Tanzanians in the celebration of these two important anniversaries, we want to reaffirm our desire to continue our friendly and cooperative relations with the CCM and its militants.

Receive, Comrade Nyerere, our heartfelt expressions of revolutionary solidarity and fraternity.

Daniel Ortega Saavedra

OFFICIAL DENIES U.S. CHARGES AT GENEVA MEETING

PA081929 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Text] Raul Roa Kouri, Cuban representative to the 40th session of the UN Human Rights Commission, said in Geneva, site of the conference, that the Cuban people have fully exercised the right to self-determination at crucial times in their history. The Cuban vice foreign minister made the statement during his replies to U.S. delegates who slandered the Caribbean island.

U.S. representative Jeane Kirkpatrick used her entire speech to try to demonstrate that in socialist countries -- among them Cuba -- the people's right to self-determination is not respected. The Cuban people, Roa Kouri stressed, exercised this right when they toppled the bloodthirsty Batista dictatorship supported by the United States, did away with illiteracy, achieved free health care and education, and defeated Washington's economic blockade against the Caribbean nation.

Another incident emerged between the two countries at the UN conference when Cuba condemned the U.S. colonial domination of Puerto Rico.

POLISH DAILY INTERVIEWS ALDANA ON LATIN AMERICA

AU071621 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 2 Feb 87 p 6

[Interview with Carlos Aldana Escalante, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, by TRYBUNA LUDU staffers Zbigniew Lesnikowski and Piotr Rzadca in Warsaw; "With a Feeling of National Honor" -- date not specified]

[Text] We are continuing our talks with the participants of the recent Warsaw conference of Central Committee secretaries of the fraternal parties of the socialist countries. Today we talk to Comrade Carlos Aldana Escalante, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba.

[Lesnikowski, Rzadca] What do you think of the conference?

[Aldana] We traveled thousands of miles to take an active part in what we thought was an interesting meeting. We have coped with the difficulties of travel and our unfamiliarity with the low temperatures you have in your country. We expected the conference to be useful, that it would be a dialogue, and that it would culminate in joint accords and a concentration of our strength in the face of our opponents, whose activity is not dispersed.

We are very pleased with the breadth of the agenda, pleased we touched on global issues, including all those involving the preservation of peace. We discussed the imperialist policy of neoglobalism. Finally, we considered the relationship between the struggle for peace and individual nations' chances of social development.

[Lesnikowski, Rzadca] The socialist community's peace offer is also addressed to the countries of your geographic region. What are this region's main problems?

[Aldana] The peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, who still live in backwardness, are presently suffering a profound socioeconomic crisis. There are many small states here whose development is minimal or negligible, for Latin America is more than only the great countries like Brazil, Argentina, or oil-rich Venezuela. Latin American countries have other worries than the ones experienced by European countries. They are concerned with how to satisfy the population's basic social needs, medical care, and general education, because this is what determines the quality of life and the future. The task facing these countries is not socialist construction, but the consolidation of democracy and independence. Many have only recently freed themselves from dismal and terrible military dictatorships. There are also countries where the revolutionary struggle has attained a high level, for example El Salvador.

Socialist relations in Latin America reign only in Cuba. Aware of this, U.S. imperialist circles are in full control of the information aimed at Latin America and constantly distort the picture of life in our country. But they are finding this more and more difficult because we are no longer as isolated as we were years ago. We are cooperating with more and more countries. For example, we have recently established diplomatic relations with Brazil, which is a major step in view of this country's importance in our region. We also have diplomatic relations with Argentina, Peru, and Uruguay. Not everyone in Europe realizes that, until a few years ago, to get from Latin America to Cuba we still had to travel via Western Europe. Today the connections exist, and they serve to convey a real picture of Cuba to our neighbors, a picture that is also received by bourgeois governments.

[Lesnikowski, Rzadca] The socialist countries are seeking new ways of achieving greater economic efficiency. In the opinion of Cuban Communists, how important is the shaping of socialist social consciousness here?

[Aldana] Our socioeconomic development is obviously at a different level from that existing in other socialist countries. Please remember that immediately after the victory of our revolution Cubans lived in abject poverty and backwardness, the heritage of previous administrations. We have already done much to eliminate this heritage, but unfortunately some signs of it are permanent. We had to work out a concept of socialist construction while gaining practical experience and taking our social, national, and geographic conditions into account. I would like to point out two features of this experience. First, during the initial period, which I would call "romantic-idealistic," we failed to consider the importance of economic mechanisms. Second, in recent years we have given these mechanisms pride of place, but have ignored moral, ideological, and political factors. I am not saying the best solution is a "golden mean," but we do think that to successfully build socialism one must shape socialist consciousness and establish a new system of values. Economic mechanisms do perform their function and are an important factor, but the point is that people should create socialist social relations with their "heads," not their "stomachs."

This issue is particularly important to us because of our proximity to the United States. North American influence on Cuba is historic; it has always existed. And yet we have carried out a revolution in spite of it. As far as the material sphere is concerned, there has always been a sharp contrast between the Cuban and U.S. standard of living. North America has always been much richer than we are and has "hit" us in the eye with the comfort and luxury in which part of its society lives. We are fully aware of the fact that these riches and luxury were founded on the plunder of other peoples, including those in South America. But many people only perceive the richness and fail to see whose poverty it has emerged from.

We cannot let our society be permeated by that model of life, that wasteful consumption. That is why we are trying to create the kind of conditions that will guarantee everyone in our country the satisfaction of basic needs, medical care, universal access to education, and -- what is equally important -- access to an apartment. On the other hand, we cannot promise everyone a car or a video recorder today.

We are shaping our society with a feeling of national pride, honor, and love for the fatherland, convinced that what our society possesses has been achieved by its own work, and not through speculation, conspiracy, or plunder. That is our concept of socialism.

COMMENTARY LINKS DUARTE TO 'MULTIMILLION FRAUD'

PA090415 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 87

["Note" feature read by Amalia Sanmartin]

[Text] It has been said for a long time now that the Salvadoran regime is in a crisis. President Jose Napoleon Duarte's denials of this are contradicted by our latest reports. In addition to the constant political failures, the generalized discontent, and the unrest that is placing the Presidency on the verge of collapse, there is now evidence that corruption in the government house is not an ill-intentioned rumor.

Although the trial began in November 1985, it has now been learned that President Jose Napoleon Duarte, his son Alejandro, and his closest collaborator and personal friend, Communications Minister Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, are involved in a multimillion fraud that has put them -- and particularly the president -- in a very uncomfortable position. Everything seemed to indicate that the former secretary of the Salvadoran presidential palace, (Blanca Amaya Gloria de Santin) would appear as the only person involved in the issue, as the only instigator and main beneficiary. She has been on trial, as we said earlier, since November 1985 for taking over 1 million colones, an amount at that time equivalent to $400,000.

The judge is charging the former presidential secretary with having stolen this amount through the sale and purchase of colones and dollars, and through signing bad checks. However, (Blanca Amaya Gloria de Santin) decided it was best to speak clearly. As a result, she said President Duarte, his son, and the communications minister were the ones who supplied her with the dollars to exchange for colones, and in this manner, began the chain of what promised to be a very profitable business that would probably never be uncovered.

Now that everything is known, let us see how the president tries to defend himself. However, there is something worth remembering. The fact is the Salvadoran regime was planning to carry out a reform program to reduce the influence of the guerrillas on the one hand, and on the other, to propose an alternative model for neighboring Nicaragua.

With such corruption, it is evident there is no moral authority for doing either. Meanwhile, the Salvadoran regime and President Duarte certainly have two firm and unquestionable supports: the White House and Ronald Reagan. And speaking of corruption, let us speak no more.

GUATEMALAN REBELS EYE STRUGGLE, SOLIDARITY

PA080400 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Report by Gloria Carmona]

[Text] The URNG is the vanguard of the revolutionary unity in that Central American country. It is composed of three organizations that have taken up arms and have proclaimed the people's revolutionary struggle as the way to attain socioeconomic changes in the country. The URNG is comprised of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army [EGP]; the Rebel Armed Forces, FAR; and the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, ORPA.

On the occasion of their fifth anniversary, we had the opportunity some days ago to talk with URNG representatives Victoria Solares and Marco Tulio Gonzalez. Gonzalez referred to the important anniversary and the guerrilla organization's unity process.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] The URNG's main achievements in developing this unity is the consolidation of the revolutionary forces' unity, and strengthening...[changes thought] the creation of the general command, which is comprised of commanders from our various organizations. [end recording]

Following many years of coups d'etat and military dictatorships, Guatemala entered the world of bourgeois democratic countries in 1985 with the rise to power of Vinicio Cerezo's Christian Democratic government. Victoria Solares said the following:

[Begin Solares recording] The political maneuvers carried out in Guatemala have become a political challenge for the URNG. Expectations that the Christian Democratic government might really attain some changes arose in the national and international level. Nevertheless, the URNG pointed out since the begining of this maneuver that democracy must be a popular achievement, based on the need to solve the social, economic, and political demands from several popular and democratic sectors. The URNG has countered this political challenge by giving a plausible, broad, and solid reply; but above all, without [words indistinct] and strengthening the people's revolutionary war, our armed struggle, and countering the Army's offensives against our guerrilla fronts, especially against the civilian population. We have also proposed some political measures to seek the solution to the conflict that prevails in our country. [end recording]

Furthermore, Marco Tulio Gonzalez referred to the importance of receiving international solidarity for their people's struggle.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] We have received solidarity from many countries, sectors, and people in Latin America and the world. This has helped us to ascertain that we follow just guidelines and that we must respond to this solidarity by pledging ourselves even more to carry out a struggle; we must increase our awareness and develop the revolution in our country even more. [end recording]

REPORTAGE, COMMENTARY ON HAITIAN COMMEMORATION

Democrats Plan Demonstrations

PA062130 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] Haitian democratic leaders have said the government's repression will not stop Saturday's peaceful demonstrations being held to commemorate the first anniversary of Dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier fleeing the country, and to protest against Henri Namphy's regime. The Democratic Action Movement has also protested the illegal police inquiry to which (Victor Dumoise) and (Robert Duval), organizers of the democratic forces congress, were subjected on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Gerard Gourgue, former justice minister and president of the Haitian Human Rights League, said the repressive actions against (Dumoise) and (Duval) prove the flagrant violation of civil rights endured under Duvalier has not stopped. (Victor Dumoise) said nothing will stop the Haitian people from struggling for their rights.

Army Suppresses Celebrations

PA080250 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Feb 87

[Text] Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital city, remained deserted throughout the day while the Army patrolled the streets. There was quite a difference to the Port-au-Prince of a year ago, when the people took to the streets to celebrate the fact that dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier had fled the country. The Haitian democratic and popular organizations had announced that demonstrations would be held in Port-au-Prince on Saturday to celebrate the first year since Duvalier was overthrown, and to protest the current political and economic situation. To stop the demonstrations, the Haitian junta threatened to represss the demonstrators and also declared today a holiday to paralyze the transportation sector and prevent the students from gathering at their schools.

Editorial Blames U.S. for 'Crisis'

PA080420 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Feb 87

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] One year after Jean-Claude Duvalier, former Haitian president for life, fled the country, Haiti remains submerged in chaos, poverty, repression, and an economic crisis. The protests staged in 1985 and early 1986 led many to think the Haitian people would at last take the reins of their destiny after forcing Duvalier out of power. The desperate and urgent intervention in the matter by the U.S. Government prevented this. A week before it happened, the White House announced Duvalier was leaving the country. This is proof that all had been planned to save the satrap from the people's justice.

Faithful servant of U.S. interests in the Caribbean and thief of the people's money, Baby Doc fled to Europe in a U.S. plane, and today he lives on the old continent, spending the money that belongs to other people.

The National Government that replaced Jean-Claude Duvalier in Port-au-Prince rules the country the same way Duvalier did. Tens of known followers of the previous government hold positions in the ministries, public offices, and military headquarters. The so-called purge of those men announced by Henri Namphy was nothing more than a smoke screen aimed at fooling the people.

In an attempt to prevent the radicalization of the masses, who were already tired of misery, Washington set up the Haitian junta and helped Namphy's propaganda efforts to make the world believe an alleged democratic process is being developed in the country. The violent repression of the demonstrations demanding social changes, the fact that those accused of crimes and tortures have not been punished, the devious and not-very-convincing electoral plan, and the indifference in the face of the Haitian economic crisis are revealing proofs the junta has not been able to meet the expectations of some naive sectors that believed in the mermaid's chants that followed Duvalier's departure.

The schedule for the allegedly free elections and the drafting of a new constitution has been strongly questioned by the opposition. They feel there are no guarantees that the letter and spirit of these will be honored or that, among other things, the rights of the people will be respected.

In view of this, the recent meeting in Port-au-Prince of many social organizations that support a truly positive change of the national situation has been described as a good sign. While the Haitian people become more and more convinced that the current junta is repressive, corrupt, incompetent, and submissive, the struggle for a just future advances to higher levels.

U.S. REPORTEDLY 'CUTTING OFF' GRENADIAN PROSPERITY

PA090452 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Feb 87

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Washington's plans to grant U.S. citizenship to immigrants who participated in the imperialist invasion of Grenada in October 1983 have slipped out without much explanation. The purpose of this invasion was to put the U.S. boot on the throat of an already completed revolutionary process.

The interpretation of who qualifies is broad. It may refer to soldiers from any Caribbean island whose government joined the aggression or perhaps to people of other nationalities who were sent to Grenada in U.S. Army uniforms, even though they were not U.S. citizens.

However, the issue is not the alleged reward of Reagan to those who served as instruments of his policy, but the reasons for adopting this decision.

The truth is that if we review the situation created in Grenada after October 1983, the dreamers who arrived on the island for the war with the idea they were fulfilling an alleged patriotic mission would no longer be proud. Once the political goal was accomplished, Washington completely ignored the fate of the small republic that made important accomplishments during the government of Maurice Bishop, such as to guarantee free education and health services to all citizens. There was also a notable decrease in unemployment, and important economic works were developed such as the Punta Salina civilian airport. That facility was turned into a sort of warlike installation by the U.S. occupation forces.

Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, representative of the pro-United States New National Party has admitted that unemployment currently affects some 33 percent of the population. However, observers have agreed that at least 60 percent of the men and women of working age remain jobless.

The U.S. military invasion eliminated the health services and seriously affected educational activities. Grenada used to receive strong support from Cuban doctors and teachers. Posts filled by international volunteers have remained vacant. Moreover, despite such needs, the Blaize government has emphatically refused to grant employment to young Grenadians who graduated from Cuban universities or other socialist nations in medicine or other specialties.

According to conservative estimates, Grenada needed some $250 million just to recover from the damage caused by the U.S. invasion. However, Washington had barely granted $44 million by the end of 1985. Furthermore, in 1986 the cost of living on the small island increased 30 percent with respect to the Maurice Bishop period of government. These so-called heroic deeds are precisely what Reagan is grateful for and are the reason he will grant U.S. citizenship to those who contributed to creating such a situation. What a doubtful privilege, earned by cutting off the prosperity and welfare of a nation. Well, for Reagan these are the true human values.

RISQUET OPENS ANGOLAN COOPERATION TALKS 9 FEB

FL100153 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Announcer-read report over video showing Cuban and Angolan delegations seated at long table]

[Text] The 12th bilateral meeting of general Cuban-Angolan cooperation began today at the Communist Party of Cuba's [PCC] Central Committee headquarters. During the opening, PCC Politburo member Jorge Risquet Valdez, who is heading our country's delegation, indicated that cooperation tasks are being conducted properly. Risquet, who is also secretary of the Central Committee, said those relations have existed for many years and they are very productive.

Lieutenant General Antonio dos Santos, Politburo member of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] Labor Party who is heading his country's delegation, said cooperation between the two countries is not aimed at creating individual advantages but to achieve progress for the two countries in the midst of the current economic crisis which the Third World is experiencing.

During today's meeting, the mixed commission discussed, among other matters, cooperation in the areas of health, education, and fisheries.

CTC OFFICIALS ANNOUNCE 'EMULATION' CHANGES

FL100052 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The main changes in the conceptualization and development of the socialist emulation, which will be in effect in March, were officially announced today by the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC] officials.

The objectives of the new emulation system will be aimed at encouraging the fulfillment of technical-economic plans and increase the number of services to the public.

The emulation organization will be considered individually and collectively using concrete and measurable indicators. This will reflect substantial overfulfillments and not the ones each worker should do every day according to his salary.

Penalver Stresses Cooperation

FL091300 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Participants in the conference held by the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC] in Ciego de Avila have reached the conclusion that trade union movement leaders must work more closely with the grass roots. Rene Penalver, second secretary of the CTC and member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, said in this respect that the country needs trade union organizations with strong grass roots capable of responding to the party's policy and the CTC's tasks and guidelines.

CIENFUEGOS SUGAR MILLS AMONG LEAST EFFICIENT

FL091914 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Report by Diosdado Masso]

[Text] In recent days the country's active sugar mills have once more shown low manufacturing efficiency. Rains and low yields are some of the factors, but subjective causes have not been lacking. Cienfuegos again joined the ranks of the most deficient. However, the Espartaco sugar mill in the Palmiras Municipality of Cienfuegos demonstrates that the problem can be solved with diligence and prompt and effective measures. That is the formula, mill director Reinaldo Leal Rivero told "Antena Uno" [name of newscast].

[Begin recording] Well, we believe the sugar harvest is coming along acceptably. However, we are not happy with the accumulated grinding, which is 88 percent, since we feel the installed capacity can be exploited the 100 percent for which it was set up. That is why we have created in factories and in the fields the right atmosphere so they will deliver 100 percent of the raw material to our industry. This way we will conclude the harvest in an efficient manner. We had some problems at the beginning of the harvest because of the rain, yet once we recovered from the rains, we have been grinding around 100 percent the past 7 or 8 days. This is our goal, and it is also worth mentioning because we must grind to the limit. [end recording]

For Reinaldo, a former cane cutter of high productivity and now director of the sugar complex, it is a matter of rolling up your sleeves. We are at the height of the harvest and to fulfill our goals we cannot shilly-shally. The rest of the Cienfuegos sugar mills should follow Espartaco's example.

HAVANA UJC DELEGATES DISCUSS WORK 'DIFFICULTIES'

FL091451 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Announcer-read report over video showing people assembled, unidentified speakers]

[Text] [Announcer] The new secretary [not identified by name in item] of the Union of Young Communists [UJC] in Havana Province has been elected at the UJC's assessment meeting chaired by Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Politburo, and by Roberto Robaina, member of the PCC Central Committee and first secretary of the UJC.

The analysis of the progress made and the problems that still subsist in the UJC characterized the discussion of the assessment report. The performance of the Technical Youth Brigades [BTJ], the active participation of the UJC in shock work, political-ideological work among the young, and their labor stability were topics discussed by the delegates.

[First speaker] The BTJ is not playing its fundamental role with the dynamism required. As a measure, I propose more control of this technical work to improve efficiency. It should be controlled to the same extent that economic initiatives are.

[Second speaker] We all (?want) new things. We all want good things. But we have to fight for them and we have to fight for them at the grass-roots level.

[Announcer] Special attention was also given to the analysis of the learning-teaching process and the UJC's defense training, as well as the need for exemplarity in each task and place, and at each moment. Critical of the difficulties and optimistic about their resolution, the Havana UJC has a commitment with the revolution: to turn difficulties into victories and reach the year 2000 strengthened.

Cienfuegos Elects Officials

FL091453 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Announcer-read report over video showing map of Cienfuegos Province, UJC emblem]

[Text] A provincial meeting of assessment and of renewal and/or ratification of mandates of the Union of Young Communists [UJC] was held yesterday in Cienfuegos. The delegates came out in favor of playing a vanguard role in the process to rectify errors and the struggle against negative tendencies. Important issues, such as the utilization of the workday, quality of the learning-teaching process, and political, ideological, and defense tasks were widely debated.

The new provincial committee is headed by Jesus Rodriguez [Diaz] and Santa Hernandez, as the first and second UJC secretaries in the province.

CROMBET, CANO BLANCO TOUR MOA'S MINING PROJECTS

FL071321 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 87

[Text] Jaime Crombet, secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee,has conducted a tour to inspect the progress made by Moa's mining-metallurgical development program. He found it to be positive.

Accompanied by Miguel Cano Blanco, Politburo member of the PCC and first PCC and first PCC secretary in Holquin Province, Jaime Crombet visited Holquin's mining enterprise Las Merceditas deposit, which has been at the vanguard in economic profitability for 7 years, and the Commander Ernesto "Che" Guevara nickel plant which is in its completion stage.

FARAH HEADS NEW CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS MINISTRY

FL091250 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] The council of state has approved the creation of the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry [ministerio de la industria de materiales de construccion], which will execute the policy of the state and government in that important area. The Council of State named Comrade Levi Farah Balmaseda, minister without portfolio, to head the new ministry.

BRIEFS

SUGAR GRINDING FIGURES -- Eight provinces have reached 90 percent or more of the potential norm. This is an evident sign of recovery and stabilization of the exploitation of the country's sugar mill industrial capabilities. Guantanamo, Holguin, and Matanzas sugar mills had outstanding results in the utilization of their potential with 95 percent averages in this indicator. [Text] [Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 87 FL]

CANE BY-PRODUCTS INCREASE -- Production of sugarcane by-products exceeded the 1986 planin the manufacture of alcohol, artificial woods, animal feed, and other products. For the first time in the past decade, the planned amount of bagasse panels was reached. In general, production results show considerable progress in comparison with the previous 5-year period. [Summary] [Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 87 FL]

CALDERA RAISES LOAN ISSUE 'TO COUNTER CRISIS'

FL092356 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 9 Feb 87

[Text] Suriname's national revenue will decrease by 122 or 170 million guilders because of the fact that the acts of terror by the Brunswijk Gang diminished the country's production capacity. These words were spoken by Planning Bureau Director Winston Caldera during a discussion on the present crisis which was held on Friday last [6 February].

The discussion was organized by the organization of civil servants. Caldera said that the crisis has maneuvered the country into a position which demands heavy sacrifices, sacrifices which will hurt the people. Caldera said the bauxite companies are formidable opponents that will press us during negotiations and Suriname will have to meet concessions since there is no time to lose. The director of the planning bureau said that Suriname has a high level of consumption and he thinks it is possible to decrease this level. Caldera said that Suriname will have to look for a loan in order to counter the crisis but that the country's bargaining power is very weak. IMF loans usually go with the unacceptable demands but Caldera does not rule out this possibility that Suriname could get something bearable out of it. He also pointed at Suriname's reserves in gold which have never been used and which are also an option in the current crisis.

DERBY, ARDJOSOMITO PROPOSE NATIONAL SUGAR POLICY

FL091703 Bridgetown CANA in English 1335 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Feb 4, CANA -- In response to repeated requests from the influential C-47 Trade Union Federation, Suriname's military government has announced it is establishing a national sugar policy.

Suriname has one sugar factory which has been plagued with problems, necessitating the importation of sugar to meet local demand.

C-47 Chairman Fred Derby and Agriculture Minister Ardjosomito discussed the situation at the Marienburg factory and the policy was proposed as a result of the talks.

The minister said under phase one, the government will put eight million guilders (one guilder; 55 cents) at the disposal of the company for the renovation works. Phase one will also include a housing project to replace the houses in which the workers currently live. The government is to make lands available to people in the district in an effort to boost employment in the area.

Meantime, Derby, in a speech to mark the 17th anniversary of his union, complained about corrupt practices at the sugar company in relation to the importation of sugar. Derby said people were making enormous sums of money in the process, and warned that if the government does not act, the union will close the factory.

He said some of the production problems facing the factory were deliberate to facilitate the importation of sugar.

PARTIES HOLD FIRST 'FREE' MEETINGS SINCE 1980

PM061451 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 3 Feb 87 p 6

[Unnamed "own correspondents" report: "Suriname's 'Old' Parties Hold Public Meetings"]

[Text] Amsterdam/Paramaribo -- Suriname's "old" political parties have been able to hold free, open meetings for the first time since the 25 February [1980] military takeover. At separate meetings on Sunday [1 February] Suriname National Party Chairman Arron and Progressive Reformed Party Chairman Lachmon explained to their parties' rank and file the agreement which they reached in the supreme council last week on the way in which parliamentary elections in Suriname will be held.

Arron and Lachmon both said that popular representation, in the form it will have after the elections, will not be perfect. But Lachmon in particular takes the view that through the elections the Surinamese people will have the possibility of bringing about changes in the political system in the country in the coming years. The National Assembly will elect a president by a two-thirds majority.

At the end of last week a group of 35 people sent a letter to the Surinamese Government and the attorney general. The letter requests clarification of the fate of family members who have been held for more than 6 months without any official charges.

ENVOY SAYS GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD BY MAR 1988

FL061452 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] A Surinamese envoy now touring the eastern Caribbean says his government will hold general elections by March of 1988. He said that Suriname's three major political parties, Trades Union Federation, the private sector, and the military were partners in the supreme political council.